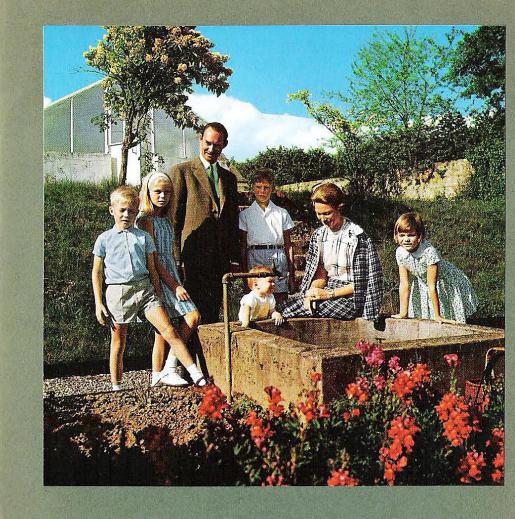


LUXEMBOURG

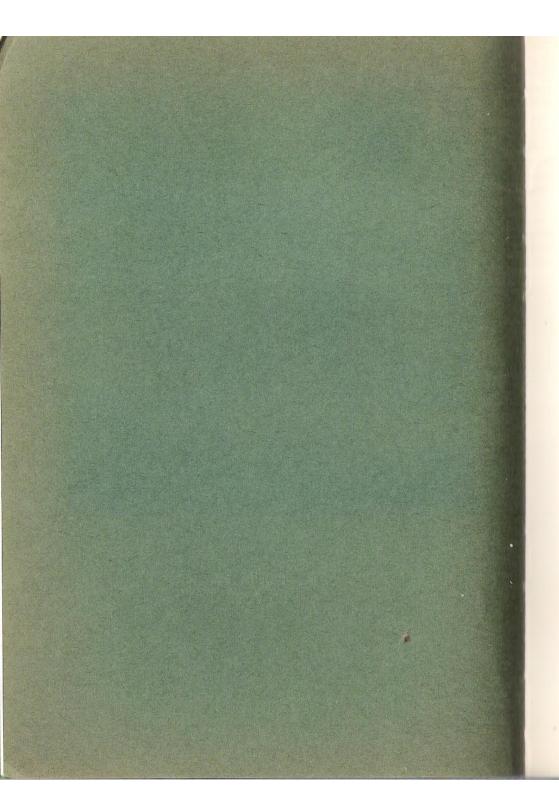
YESTERDAY AND TO-DAY

WITH 138 ILLUSTRATIONS



H.R.H. the Grand Duke of Luxembourg and His Family

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THE LUXEMBOURG NATIONAL ANTHEM

1.

HERE you see the slow Alzette flow, the Sura play wild pranks, where lovely vineyards amply grow on the Mosella's banks, there lies the land for which our thanks are owed to God above, our own, our native land which ranks well foremost in our love.

II.

In its dark forest's close embrace, and that of opulent peace there dwells our hardy, sturdy race in humble, simple ease. Though our folks think they have a lease from liberty to roam where they are pleased, they never cease their thoughts of home, sweet home.

III.

Our Father in Heaven Whose powerful hand makes states or lays them low, protect Thy Luxembourger Land from foreign foe or woe.

God's golden liberty bestow
On us now as of yore.

Let Freedom's sun in glory glow for now and evermore.

(Words by Michel Lentz. English version by Nicolas E. Weydert.)

PREFACE

Everybody knows that Luxembourg is a tiny country, just a dot on the map. But many people would like to find out something definite about it. They wonder how large or how small the country really is, how it came into existence, how it managed to subsist and what part it plays in the world. In their search for information they may find it difficult to unearth a suitable English book giving them the desired information.

Well, this booklet would like to answer at least some of their questions. It gives them a short description of the countryside, of the character and achievements of its inhabitants, in peace as well as in war, and finally an outline of its history.

The main purpose is to provide information, but the visitor may also use it as a short guide. To friends of Luxembourg old and new, it may prove a keepsake and to Luxembourgers overseas it brings warm wishes and greetings from the Grand-Duchy.

Joseph PETIT.

CHAPTER ONE.

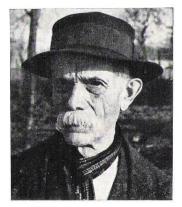
THE COUNTRY-SIDE

Looking for Luxembourg on a map, an American cannot help marvelling at the minuteness of the country. When driving through Luxembourg he will have to be careful about stepping on the accelerator, or else he will be in and out of Luxembourg before he knows. After all, it's only a matter of 62 miles from top to bottom and of 37 miles across, at the widest part, the whole country barely covers 1000 square miles, but, mind you, the 330.000 people living on this tiny patch feel that for all its smallness, it's a marvellous place to live in.

You may think there is not any room for much variety in scenery, but that exactly is one thing you will be surprised at, when you get to know the country. The least you can say is that the countryside is definitely not monotonous. Travellers who have seen much of the world say you will have to go far to find another spot as alluring as regards scenery, vistas and views.



Esch on Sure

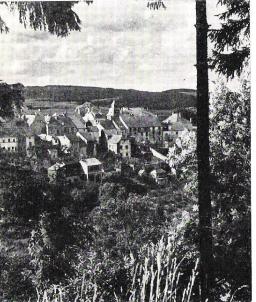


An E'sleck farmer

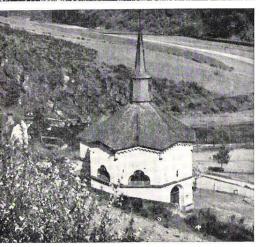
An age-old town on the banks of the meandering Sure, nestling round a medieval stronghold hidden away in the pathless wilderness of the E'sleck, the northern part of the country



One of the few remaining straw-thatched cottages reminding E'sleckers of the hard times before the Industrial Revolution which, in Luxembourg, set in about 1870



Wiltz, in former times the seat of a noble family, was yesterday a thriving centre of the tanning industry. The slopes of the Ardennes, covered with oaktrees, furnished the bark required by the tanneries. These have nowadays been replaced by chemical factories



Heiderscheider Grond A chapel in the valley



A wayside Pièta

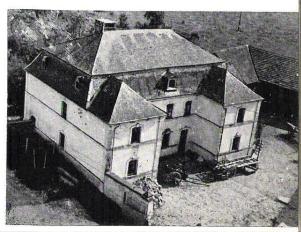


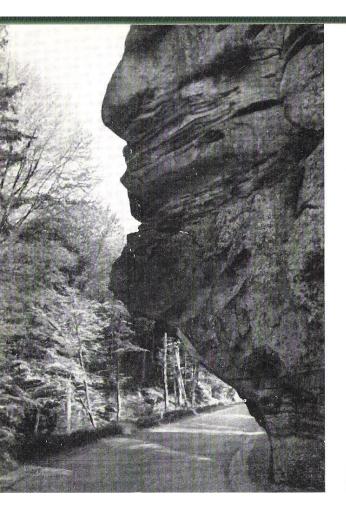


A village church



A farmer ploughing the fertile soil of the « Good Earth »





In the Miller's Dale





A baron's tombstone in a village church

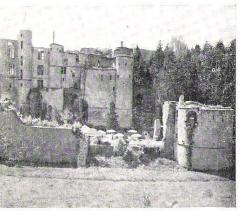
N the Middle Ages the knights and barons played a leading part in the life of the nation. Together with the churchmen and the sturdy peasants, they led the country out of the Dark Ages on to the highroad of civilisation and, unwittingly, in their struggle against the neighbouring principalities they laid the foundations of the country's independence. Their homes, the awe-inspiring strongholds, dotting the countryside, now lie in ruins, but they have won the country the The Land of Haunted Castles



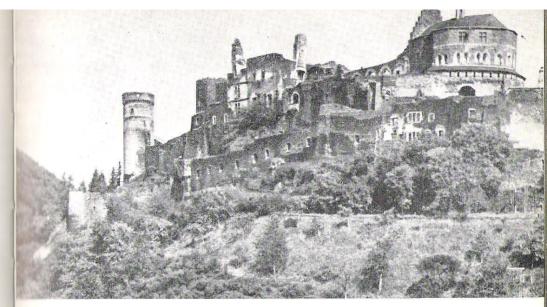
Bourscheid



Bourglinster



Beaufort



Vianden, the seat of the Orange-Nassau Dynasty



Mersch, the castle



Schænfels, the donjon

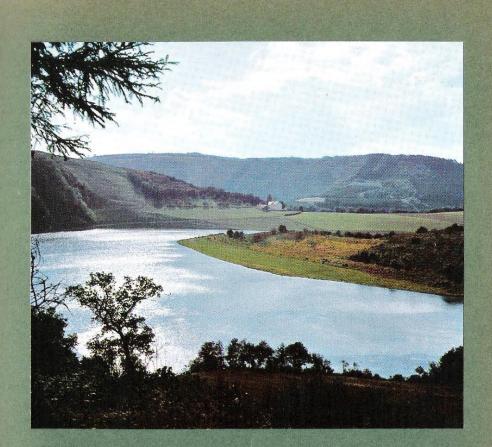


The summer residence of the Grand Ducal Family at Colmar-Berg

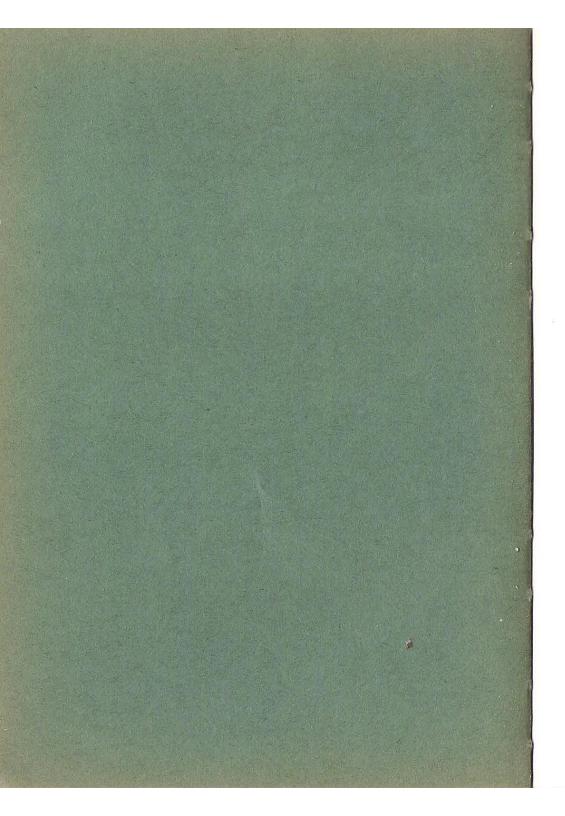


Clervaux

The castle was the home of the De Lannoi family. — Some authors have supposed that Philip De Lannoi, who emigrated to New England in the 17th Century, may rank among President Franklin Roosevelt's maternal ancestors, the Delanos (originally Delannois).



The Lake of Esch on Sure

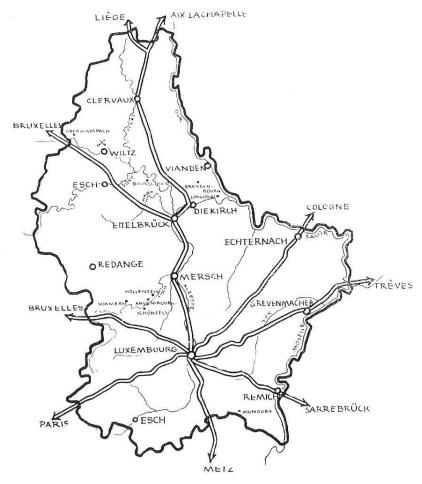


THE HIGHLANDS OR E'SLECK

We may not have the wide open spaces, the towering ranges found in the States, it is true, but we have plains in the south and hills (1300 to 1700 ft) up north. The latter may not be as grandiose as the Alps, but they have character and a peculiar charm of their own. The ranges with their rugged crests twist and squirm about, and the steep slopes, covered with darkgreen spruce and stunted oaks, hug the narrow, winding glens. These hilly parts up north, known to the Luxembourgers as the E'sleck. were not too fertile, and it was only when the farmers in the E'sleck began using a fertilizer produced in the steel-plants down south that they were able to make a more comfortable living.

The rugged, stern beauty of these Ardennes highlands appeals to the hiker and nature-lover, who has found out that there are only few countries with so many lovely hill-top views, and from the barren peaks he looks down into picturesque valleys, spotted with old homesteads, or gazes over to the surrounding heights, crowned with quaint villages. What splendid vistas!

The roads stretch away into the distance, leading to towns nestling at the foot of awe-inspiring medieval castles; they crawl up the steep inclines, run along the ridges and sweep down into winding valleys where they follow the meandering Sure and Our rivers and swing round sheer grey rocks. The neat white-washed houses of the villages, snuggling round the church on the slopes, mirror themselves in the rivers. They all date from olden times and their age accounts for the erratic lay-out, the



quaint churches and the narrow streets and passages turning crazily this way and that.

There is no denying it, the E'sleck has an appeal of its own all the year round, but try to see it in spring with

the gorse in full bloom, the foxgloves nodding in the breeze, and its castles outlined against the blue.

Not one of these castles is less than four hundred years old, some of them were even built in the eleventh and twelfth centuries.

They belonged to families, well known all over Europe in the Middle Ages, and were the homes of barons and knights without fear but not always without reproach who did not mind oppressing the villagers and ambushing the travelling merchants now and then. These barons were undaunted warriors in the real sense of the word, tough as you might say nowadays. Did they bother much about right or wrong? No! Not always. They kept warring upon each other, attacked the monasteries in the neighbourhood, preyed upon the peasants and were equally at home on the battlefields of Europe and at the brilliant tournaments in the Rhinelands and in France.

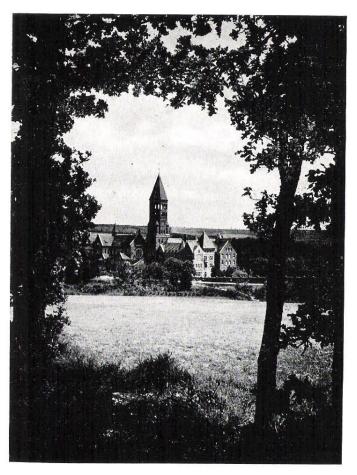
The most remarkable among these noble families were the counts of Vianden. The last representative of this house, Adelaide, married Othon of Nassau-Dillenburg in the fourteenth century and it is from this dynasty of Nassau-Vianden united later on by intermarriage to the House of Orange, that our gracious Grand Ducal family and the present royal family of Holland are descended.

The castle of Vianden was one of the largest and finest between the Meuse and the Rhine, and what remains of it proves that the builders knew quite a lot about art and architecture. The immense « salle des chevaliers », the hall of the knights, which could easily accommodate five hundred men, and the magnificent Byzantine chamber next to it, which are still fairly well preserved, must have been gems of Gothic and Byzantine architecture. Some of the leading scholars of the Middle Ages, Albert the Great amongst others, were welcome guests at the splendid home of this distinguished and valiant dynasty.

The barons of Esch on the Sure and Brandenbourg, of Clervaux and of Bourscheid, the owners of slightly smaller strongholds in the neighbourhood of Vianden, could afford to defy anybody, thanks to their impregnable castles in the mountain fastnesses of the E'sleck.

What remains of the imposing keeps and gloomy dungeons, of the fantastic ramparts and gateways on top of the weather-beaten crags of the E'sleck gives the traveller a pretty good idea of a medieval castle. And when he stands in the midst of the ivy-clad towers and mossgrown ramparts it may happen that, lost in thoughts of olden times, he suddenly sees in his mind's eye a proud knight in resplendent armour riding over the draw-bridge and waving good-bye to a fair lady in brocaded satin. The vision fades away, and gazing down into the valley over the rubble that once was rampart and battlement, he realizes that these remains of bygone times are symbols of the vanity of human endeavour and landmarks in the history of the sturdy little country that, for so many centuries, has successfully struggled against overwhelming odds to save its independence.

The pathless solitudes of the highlands attracted not only barons and knights but also churchmen and monks. Far away in the wilderness of the Ardennes the members of the religious orders founded the famous monasteries of St. Hubert, Orval, Stavelot-Malmédy, which ever since There is, however, no denying their influence on the



The abbey of St. Maurice and St. Maur, Clervaux

the early Middle Ages were active centres of culture and religious life. They are situated in a part of the Ardennes which no longer belongs to Luxembourg, but to Belgium.

E'sleck. Besides building churches and abbeys and teaching the villagers better ways of cultivating the land, the monks did great humanizing and educative work for the people.

In the 13th century the Trinitarians built a church at Vianden, which is a small but fine example of gothic architecture. The Templars, the cavalier monks, who wielded the sword as well as the Bible in the cause of Christendom, erected a commandery, a peculiar kind of castle-fortress at Roth near Vianden. In many villages up north the activity and influence of the monasteries can be traced by the traveller visiting the quaint churches and chapels of Holler and Hachiville near Troisvierges, of Munshausen near Clervaux, of Longsdorf near Diekirch.

It was not only in olden times that the Ardennes attracted the holy orders. In 1909 French membres of the Order of St. Benedict set up a splendid monastery on a lonely peak near Clervaux, the abbey of St. Maurice and St. Maur, built after the pattern of the worldfamous Abbey of Cluny (1100 A.D.). When the traveller visits the kindly, hospitable monks, he is caught up in an oldworldly atmosphere. Unfortunately the Benedictines were driven away, when the Germans invaded the country in 1940. The building was confiscated and transformed into an Adolf-Hitler-School. The Germans, by the way, did not refrain from gutting the cloister and cells and from making a gymnasium out of the church. Fortunately the damage was not beyond repairing.

Before the war the E'sleck had become a haunt of tourists and holidaymakers from Holland, Belgium and France. They had got into the habit of spending some weeks hiking, swimming and fishing in the highlands of Luxembourg. They put up at the numerous hotels (famous for the good table they kept) that sprang up in the larger localities such as Troisvierges, Clervaux, Wiltz, Vianden, and Diekirch. They relished the specialities of Luxembourg culinary art: trout, venison and smoked ham, Moselle wines, sloe and cherry brandies, and the like.



A favourite dish in Luxembourg

It was a good thing that the Government tried to increase tourist traffic by all means; an international advertising campaign drew attention to Luxembourg's manifold attractions, and splendid roads were built all over the country linking all the beautiful out-of-the-way spots. The towns of the E'sleck are small and very neat; the population of the largest never exceeds the 5000 limit.

In former times cloth weaving and tanning were important industries and even nowadays there still are one or two medium-sized cloth-mills and tanneries in Esch on the Sure, Vianden and Wiltz.

Recently, in order to bring new employment opportunities, to a broaden and diversify the middle industries, the Luxembourg authorities developed a program for new industrial activities and encouraged industrial investments in the country. After 1960, thanks to the efforts of the Board of Industrial Development under the chairmanship of Prince Charles of Luxembourg, new plants sprang up in the Ardennes highlands. Chemical factories, metal, rubber, food and tobacco manufacturing industries settled in different towns, in Clervaux, Wiltz, Colmarg-Berg, Ettelbruck and Diekirch. Also down South, particularly in Echternach and Contern, two international corporations producing plastics found excellent conditions for their settling and expanding.

In order to provide the country and its new industries with electricity, hydro-electric power plants utilizing the natural water resources of the E'sleck were built in Esch on Sure and Vianden between 1955 and 1963. Their construction, besides the direct and immediate purpose of the plants, had some happy additional effects. The landscape in their surroundings changed and new points of touristic interest are born.

The dam of the Esch on Sure plant created a beautiful artificial lake, which adds its charm to the picturesque landscape. And the big pumped storage plant near Vianden with its technical achievements and its « upper reservoir » is a unique curiosity worth while a visit.



The Vianden Pumped Storage Plant. Aerial photo of the upper reservoir

THE GOOD EARTH

Coming down from the north through the highlands of the Ardennes or E'sleck as far as Diekirch, the traveller finds himself unexpectedly in a land of low, rolling hills with fairly large, open valleys; he has entered the lovely undulating lowlands of Luxembourg the « Good Earth » or « Good Land » as the inhabitants call it. The transition from the E'sleck to the Good Earth is abrupt and striking. A moment before the traveller was roaming in wildly beautiful glens at the foot of rugged peaks and all at once he notices that the gorges widen into peaceful valleys with splendid fields, luxuriant pastures and glorious woods. All the valleys, the valley of the Alzette, of the Attert, of the Eisch, of the Mamer of the Moselle have an idyllic peacefulness in common, but apart from that each has its own special appeal.

The altar of the parish church at Kærich

THE VALLEYS OF THE ALZETTE AND THE EISCH

The valley of the Alzette is one of the widest, it is almost a plain with a caprious river, winding through meadows and narrow strips of field, hiding among willows and poplars. Some visitor may wonder why the arable land is divided up into so many small patches and he will be astonished to find that Luxembourg is largely composed of small farms, belonging to the common people.

There are not many large estates, and many Luxembourgers have their own bits of land. The average farmer does not own more than thirty or forty acres, some possess forty-five to eighty-five acres. That, by the way, accounts for the relatively large number of landed proprietors in Luxembourg; among the 300.000 inhabitants there are no fewer than 10.000 smallholders. The soil in the south is more fertile and the villages here look more prosperous, the farmhouses are roomier, the barns larger than up north.

In 1962, 340.000 acres were under cultivation. The harvests give wheat, rye. oats, beetroot, potatoes and fruit. Luxembourg produces three-quarters of her needs and absorbs nearly all her own agriculture produce 1).

The Alzette flows northwards through the two towns in the country, Esch on Alzette, an industrial town surrounded by iron mines and steelplants, and Luxembourg, the fascinating capital. It passes three or four smaller

¹⁾ Cf. Publications de l'Office de Statistique Générale, of the Service d'Etudes et de Documentation Economiques, and the Service Information et Presse of the Luxembourg Government.

localities, on its way, such as Bettembourg, a dairy centre, Mersch, a lovely market-town with a wellpreserved castle serving as a youth hostel, Colmar-Berg with the summer residence of the Grand Ducal Family, and finally Ettelbruck with a fine agricultural institute. And all the way downstream the rolling heights that hem in the valley are crowned with magnificent forest teeming with deer, wild boar and other game.

As a matter of fact nearly all the hills lining the other valleys are thickly wooded and so it comes about that a third of the whole area of Luxembourg is covered with forests. Luxembourgers like to remind the traveller that only one hundred and fifty years ago three-quarters of Luxembourg were wood and forest and that at the time of the French Revolution their country was known as the « Département des Forêts ».

The valleys of the Eisch, the Attert and the Sure connect two picturesque areas of fine woods, queer rock formations, and cascading brooks. Green fields and silver streams with willows, millpools with the trout rising, aweinspiring ruins and grand mansions, hidden by far-spreading beeches and firs, are the features of the enchanted Eisch valley, the valley of the Seven Castles (Septfontaines, Kærich, Ansembourg [old and new], Hollenfels, Schænfels and Mersch). What a pity that half these castles lie in ruins like most of the one hundred and thirty castles in Luxembourg, but the legends and tales woven around them about forlorn maidens, rapacious barons, hidden treasures, the Little People, and the hair-raising ghost stories remind the travellers how aptly the American Robert J. Casey named Luxembourg « the Land of Haunted Castles ».

ECHTERNACH

On the banks of the Sure and also on the German frontier lies Echternach an old, old town, nestling round a famous monastery and its basilica with the tomb of Saint Willibrord.

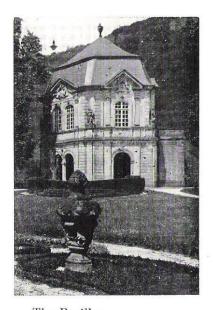
Alas! Echternach had very nearly been completely wrecked during the battle of the Ardennes (dec. 1944). The monastery and the basilica had been badly damaged. What the destruction of Echternach really meant will easily be realised by the traveller who bears in mind that the small town is one of the important historical and cultural centres of Europe. And, at the same time, he will understand that the Luxembourg Government has tried everything in its power to rebuild that venerable, historic monument of the basilica.

The basilica is the burial-place of Saint Willibrord, that saintly missionary who, in the seventh century, came over from Northumberland like his fellow-countrymen Saint Columban and Saint Boniface to rechristianize those parts of Western Europe which after the Fall of Rome were heathenized. It was in 698 A. D. that Willibrord founded an abbey in Echternach, an abbey whose fame spread all over Europe and in whose basilica he, Willibrord, abbot of Echternach and bishop of Utrecht, was enshrined in a merovingian sarcophagus after his death in 732 A. D. The monastery was to become one of the major religious centres as well as the home of one of the bestknown schools of miniaturists. Indeed, the illuminated manuscripts and the ivory sculptures originating from Echternach now belong to the treasures of the museums and libraries of Paris. London, Brussels, Madrid and Vienna.



Echternach, the ancient religious centre as it was before 1944. The town nestling round the famous monastery and the basilica, the shrine of Saint Willibrord

In the Abbey Gardens



The Pavillon



The Orangerie





The « Sprangprozession » (cf. p. 31)

The basilica after the Rundstedt offensive



No wonder that Charlemagne, the emperors Othon II and Conrad II and Pope Eugen III came to Echternach and tried to win its favour. The basilica dates from the eleventh century, parts of it were even built in the eighth and ninth centuries; the parish church and the basilica, by the way, are the oldest churches in the country. The monastery prospered and extended its influence, and though it never quite regained the position it had held in the eighth and ninth centuries, the eighteenth century brought lavish wealth and celebrity to the monks of Echternach. They pulled down the monastery and replaced it by extensive buildings; it became a princely palace with fine gardens and parks, all in baroque style and it had a cluster of fine mansions and summer residences in the neighbourhood (Bollendorf, Lauterborn, Weilerbach). Then in 1794 the revolutionary army, sweeping through Luxembourg drove the monks out of their splendid home, out of Echternach, from where for more than a thousand years they had, as Bertholet puts it, « spread the gospel and taught agriculture and good manners ». The monks are gone, their precious library is scattered all over the world, but the monastery is still there. Though battlescarred, and partly wrecked after the Rundstedt counteroffensive, it now is restaured entirely and has found a new destination in becoming in 1950 a school for Echternach boys and girls.

Echternach is undoubtedly a fine historical place with many a surprise for the traveller and, believe me, if he happens to spend Whit Tuesday there, he will be able to witness a religious ceremony unique in Christendom — the « Sprangprozession ». A procession of prayer yes, but not an ordinary one with dutiful pilgrims walking slowly through the streets, fervently invoking a saintly patron. In this pageant, the strangest and most startling of its kind, the participants don't pray, they dance — five steps forwards and three backwards and, as a result, the procession advances at a maddeningly slow pace to the tune of a weird, haunting melody played again and again by the bands accompanying every group of devout, dancing pilgrims. Violins, flutes, guitars and brass bands strike up



Two pages out of a famous illuminated manuscript (school of Echternach)

and the dancers shuffle on, advancing and retreating rhythmically to a tune as old as time. First, led by priests, come the boys and girls of Echternach, next the lads and lasses, then pilgrims from the Eifel and Luxembourg, men, women and children, led by the village bands. The ceremony begins early in the morning and lasts far into the

afternoon; for hours and hours the crowd surges through the narrow cobbled streets lined with tens of thousands of onlookers and on its way to St. Willibrord's tomb it passes the venerable monastery.

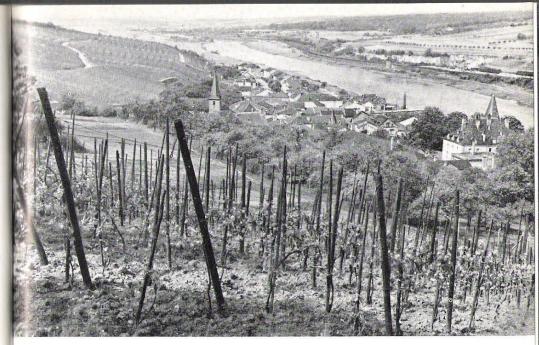
It's a fantastic sight, no it's more than a sight, it becomes a thrilling obsession and the onlookers are fascinated and gripped by the throbbing rhythm.

What is the purpose of this strange ceremony? Well, the pilgrims invoke Saint Willibrord's help against epilepsy; in former times the parents of the unfortunate children suffering from this disease carried them to Saint Willibrord's tomb. Since when has it been taking place? Nobody knows. The historians have been very busy, they have failed, however, so far, to unravel the enigma; one thing at least is certain, it was already mentioned in records of the eighth century.

THE MOSELLE

About twelve miles from Echternach the Sure joins the Moselle. If the Sure valley is the rich fruitgrowing region of Luxembourg, the Moselle valley is the wine-producing part. The banks are lined with vineyards, the hills are terraced and the slopes are made up of steps, each step filled with grape-vines tied to stakes.

The Moselle comes from Lorraine and connects Luxembourg with France and the French civilisation so dear to the Luxembourgers, and the valley has become famous for its mild climate, its dry wine and its jovial inhabitants, celebrated already two thousand years ago by two Roman poets, Ausonius and Fortunatus.



A Moselle village

Grape-gathering in the Moselle valley





The « Source Marie-Adélaïde » at Mondorf-les-Bains

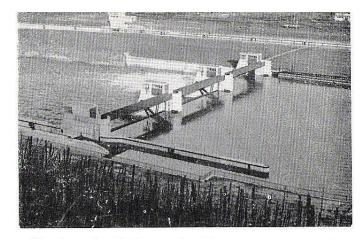
The St. Nicholas Gateway at Remich/Moselle



Alas! The riverside that echoed to the songs of the grape-gatherers and holiday-makers, rang with the din of battle, on May 10th 1940 and from September 1944 to March 1945, and the people of the Moselle had been obliged to leave the idyllic villages and towns after untold hardships. The wine-grower's lot was never an easy one. For years and years he has been toiling all day long in the vineyards, plodding up and down the steep slopes, weeding and hoeing, trimming and pruning and then, his home, village or townlet, had suffered much. Just like the Luxembourgers living in the valleys of the lower Sure and Our a few miles farther up north, he knows from experience what it means to live on this tragic frontier separating in those days the free from the unfree, the democraties from the hated Nazis. They, and all the Luxembourgers were deeply grateful that they were born on the right side of the borderline and they knew that after the victory everything would be put to rights.

In April 1945, silence and peace were established again in the quiet valley of the Moselle river. — And soon after, things happening again in the field of international affairs had an influence on the destiny of the Moselle river and valley.

On October 27th 1956 a treaty was signed in Luxembourg between France and Germany. Meaning to forget their historic quarrels and disputes, the Governments of these two countries confirmed a new friendship. More peaceful links and profitable connections should be created. The treaty stipulated among others that the French Lorraine should be connected to the German Rhine valley by a new waterway easy to realize on condition that the Mo-



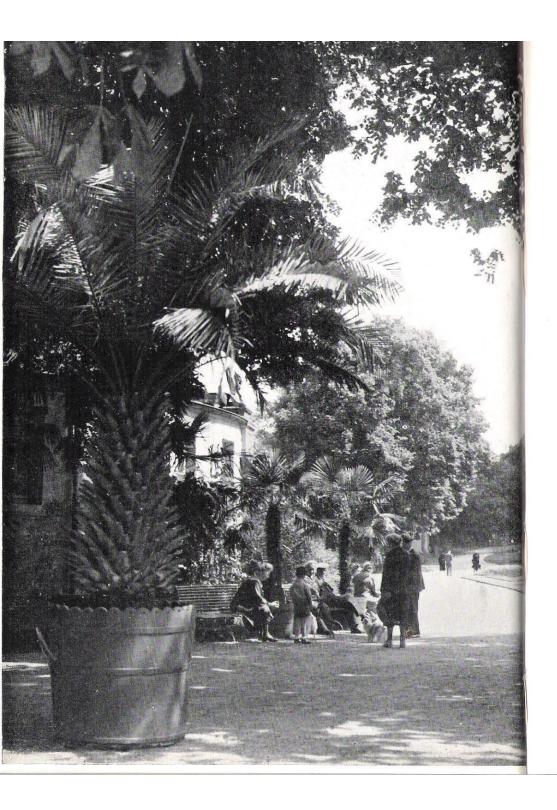
selle river should be canalized between Thionville-Metz and Coblence.

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, being bordered on by the Moselle, was immediately approached with a view of making her join the project.

The works in the river and on its banks began in 1961. They ended in June 1964. The Moselle got a new look. The flow of the river is regularized. In Mertert a port has been constructed. In Wormeldonge, Stadtbredimus and Grevenmacher electric power plants have been built. Before long industrial life will invade the valley. Amidst the new surroundings the wine-grower's lot will continue to be nearly the same, difficult and yet gay, full of risks and newertheless attractive. But the new waterway will have a profitable effect on the life of the whole region.

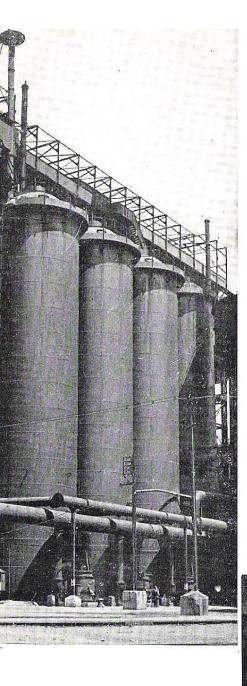
MONDORF

A small spa in the south (about twelve miles away from the Capital) a quiet watering place with radioactive thermal springs is building up an excellent reputation for the good effect of its waters on liver trouble, diabetes, and gout (see picture next page).



THE SOUTHERN FRINGE OF LUXEMBOURG

In small countries every acre of soil is valuable, but on the southern fringe of Luxembourg near the border every square inch has proved especially precious. This part of the country is known to the Luxembourgers as the Land of the Red Earth; it is the land of iron-ore (minette) and from Dudelange, on the southeastern tip, to Rodange, in the southwestern corner, an abundant layer of iron-ore stretches across the country. So the South has become a busy industrial centre with clusters of blastfurnaces, rolling-mills and steelplants. The countryside bears the stamp of industry, there is no denying it, nevertheless the tidy towns (Dudelange 15.000, Esch 28.200, Differdange 19.000, Pétange 8.000, Rodange 4.200 inhabitants) are no blemish on the exceptionally fine scenery. Though 15% of the whole population of Luxembourg is engaged in farming, no fewer than 6,9 million tons of iron-ore, 4,1 million tons of pig-iron and 4,4 million tons of steel (girders, rails etc.) are produced on an average every year in the plants belonging to three great concerns viz. the ARBED i. e. Aciéries Réunies de Burbach, Eich, Dudelange (16 blastfurnaces, 5 steelmills, 5 rolling-mills in Luxembourg), HADIR i. e. Hauts Fourneaux et Aciéries de Differdange, St.-Ingbert, Rumelange (10 blastfurnaces, 1 steel-mill, 1 rolling-mill, 1 wire-mill) and the Minière et Métallurgique de Rodange Company. The sales agencies of the three concerns, Columeta, Davum exportation, and Luxmétal control many selling offices all over the world. Luxembourg ranked for a long while as a steel-producing country immediately after U.S.A., Britain, Germany, France, Russia and Belgium.



he sieel industry in the south has become Luxembourg's main esset since the discovery of iron-ore (minette) about 1870. The following figures show the record production of 1964:

Pig-iron: 4,191.015 tons
Steel: 4.558.342 tons
The three great concerns are the ARBED (Aciéries Réunies

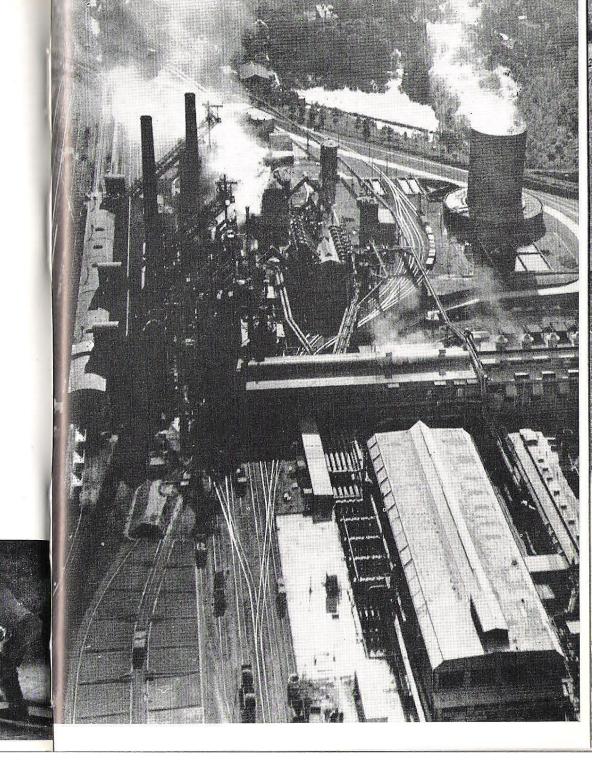
6.679.677 tons

de Burbach, Eich, Dudelange), Hadir and the Minière et Métallurgique de Rodange

Company.

Iron-ore:

next page: An aerial view of the Arbed-Esch-Schifflange plant.



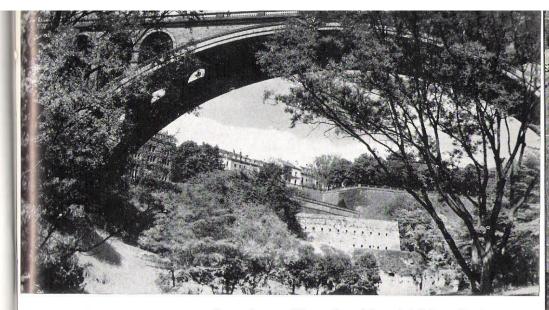
CHAPTER TWO

LUXEMBOURG CITY

A CITY OF ONE THOUSAND YEARS

Every capital prides itself on being different from the rest, on being unique. Every one, large or small, has a characteristic beauty of its own; and so has Luxembourg. Some people, who have travelled a lot, even claim that, as regards romantic picturesqueness and dramatic grandiosity of profile, Luxembourg is second to none. It has been compared to Constantine in Algeria. Perched like Constantine on mighty rocks, the city towers above the quaint suburbs nestling around it with their old-fashioned houses and crooked alleys. The steep rocks and the rugged crags as well as the canyonlike gorges account to a great extent for the wildly beautiful scenery — but man's contribution, the formidable fortifications and soaring bridges, has added an awe-inspiring touch.

The traveller coming from the north or the east will not forget the fantastic view of the city rising majestically out of the valley amongst the high walls of the forti-

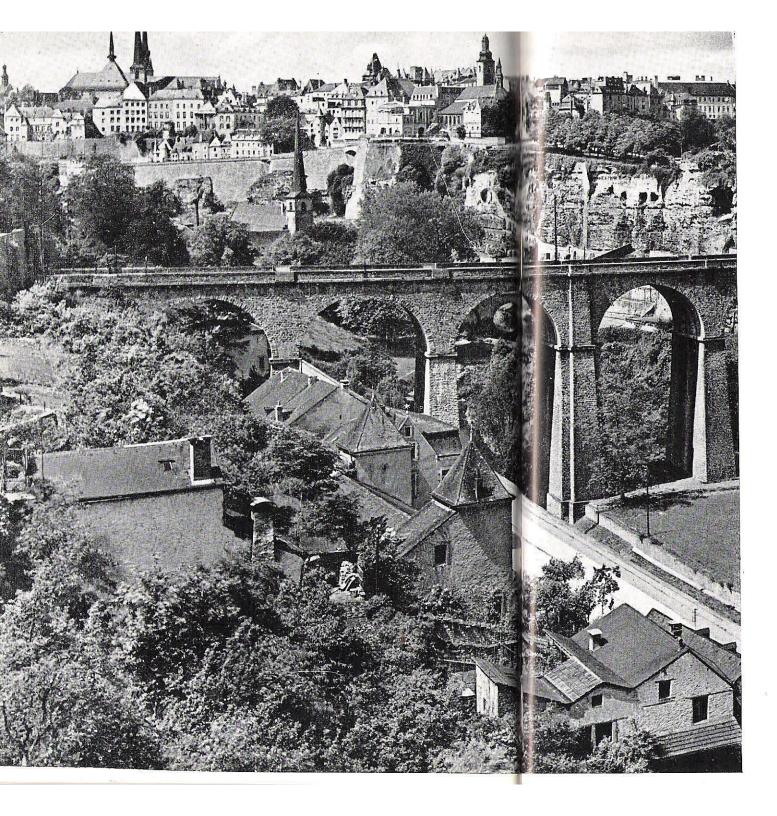


Luxembourg, The $\ensuremath{\text{w}}$ Grand-Duc Adolphe $\ensuremath{\text{w}}$ Bridge



LUXEMBOURG, formerly an impregnable fortress crowning unscalable rocks, possesses both the quaint old-fashioned charm of an ancient town with

the atmosphere of a prosperous and modern capital. It is a city of many memories and a city with a future situated in one of the finest parts of the country



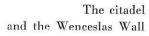


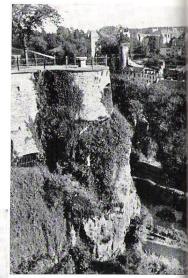
The traveller coming from the north or the east will not forget the fantastic views of the city rising majestically out of the valley amongst the high walls of the fortifications, dominated itself by the cathedral and its steeples and spires.





The « Bastion du Saint-Esprit »





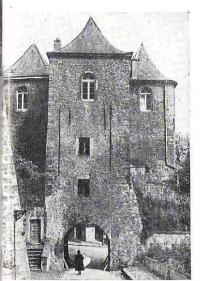
The Wencelas Wall (14th century)

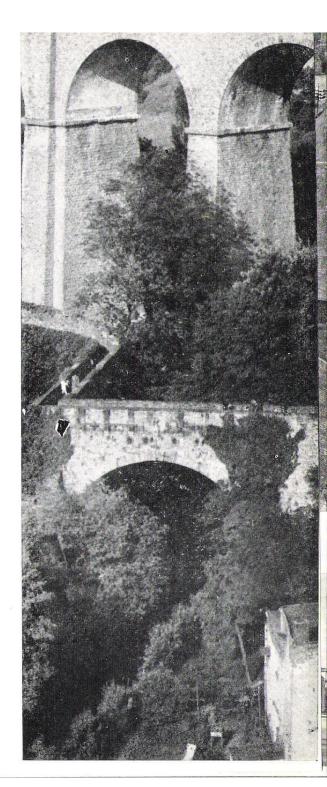


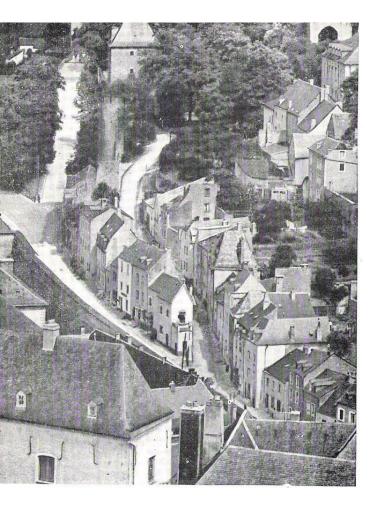
Above: A Fort. The « Three Acorns »

Right: Spanning the Alzette a modern viaduct and an old rampart

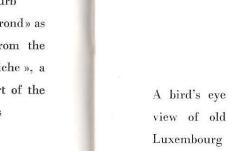
Below: The Three Towers, a gateway (1050 A.D.)



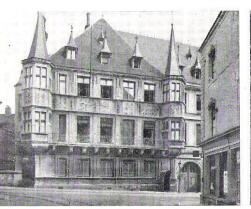




A Suburb «the Grond» as seen from the « Corniche », a rampart of the fortress



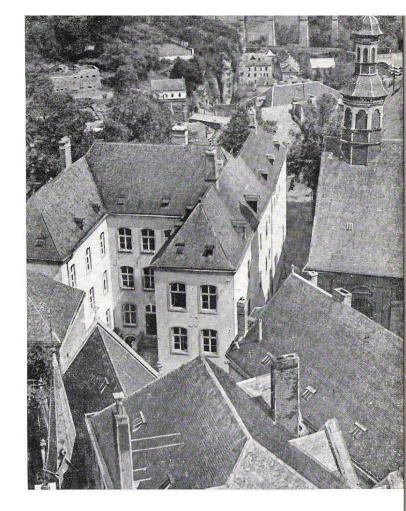
The Grand-Ducal Palace



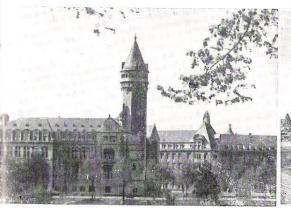
The Townhall



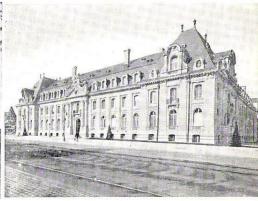
view of old Luxembourg

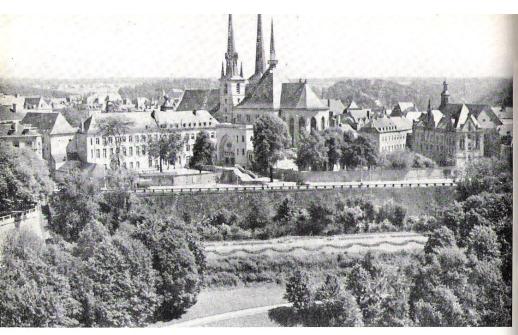


The Savings-bank



The Arbed

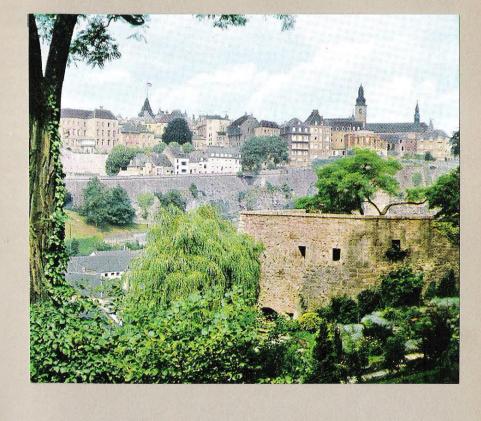




The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Boulevard, the Cathedral and the College



The Cathedral is the sanctuary of Our Lady of Luxembourg, the Patroness of Luxembourg



Luxembourg-City seen from the East

fications, dominated itself by the cathedral and its steeples and spires.

That is one of the finest views of Luxembourg but there are others. Incidentally, Rev. T. H. Passmore refers to it as a dozen cities in one. R. J. Casey claims that « Luxembourg has the pose and poise of Gibraltar, the wbridge-and-spire profile of Bruges, the flowered beauty of « Paris, the historical charm of Brussels, and the mystery « of a temple city of the Orient. No capital in the world « is quite like Luxembourg City! »

Luxembourg is certainly not altogether a medieval town nor altogether a modern city; there is, however, an ancient town in it as well as an 18th century fortress and a modern 20th century city.

Quaint crooked alleys and wide boulevards, imposing towers and forbidding ramparts are to be found almost side by side. The city has played an important part in former times like many other cities in Europe. There are few, however, that, like Luxembourg, strike the traveller as being hewn out of solid rock and history. It is 1000 years old and wherever you go, you will come across buildings, walls and towers dating from the eleventh, thirteenth, seventeenth or eighteenth centuries. The casemates, a subterranean system of tunnels and corridors about fourteen miles long sunk in the rocks, are one of the outstanding sights of the old-fortress.

Many great men, kings, generals, and artists, have paid homage to the venerable city.

Louis XIV, the greatest of all French kings, whose marshals, Créqui and Vauban, captured the fortress had that memorable event commemorated by a fine medal with the famous chronogram: DestrVCtIo VrbIs LVXeMbVrgensIs. He visited the city on May 21st 1687 with the heir-apparent and a dazzling retinue. Amongst the attendance was Racine, the famous French playwright and the king's historiographer. Tradition has it that the king used to sample favourite dishes of the regions he had conquered and he is said to have relished one of old Luxembourg's favourite specialities viz. smoked pork and lentils.

On October 9th 1804 the peal of bells and the boom of guns saluted Napoleon's entry into Luxembourg. His was to be a flying visit, but he was so interested in the lay-out and the defences of the fortress that he stayed three days.

Gæthe, who came to Luxembourg in October 1792, was so captivated by the town that he devoted several pages of his « Campaign in France » to a masterly description of the impregnable fortress. «... This is a spot », he says, « where so much grandeur and grace, sombre solemnity and exquisite loveliness are found side by side that one can only wish that Poussin (the outstanding French painter of the 17th century) had seen and painted it. »

Gæthe himself, a painter of sorts in his spare time, tried his hand, and his sketches, discovered some years ago, give a pretty good idea of what he meant.

What Gæthe could not hope to achieve in painting, was accomplished by that great English artist Turner, whose splendid watercolour sketches have conveyed the fantastic character of this strangest of towns.

It was in Luxembourg that Liszt, the famous virtuoso and composer, a friend of Munkacsy's, the Hungarian artist, who owned a fine mansion in the Grand Duchy, gave a concert on July 18th 1886; it was to be his last public appearance.

In more recent times the inhabitants of the capital were able to extend their hospitality to Foch and Pershing, Bradley and Patton; the latter had established their head-quarters in the city during the Battle of the Ardennes after having liberated the country in the automn of 1944.

In July 1946 Winston Churchill paid a two day's official visit to the country. He was enthusiastically and spontaneously welcomed by the Luxembourg population. In a speech made to the Luxembourg Parliament he declared himself a profoundly impressed with the strong principle of vitality, of personality which has preserved the independent and sovereign life of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg ».

On September 29th 1946, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Chief of the General Staff of the U. S. Army paid a visit to H. R. H. the Grand Duchess. The news of his presence spread rapidly through the town. And the crowd gathered before the Grand-Ducal Palace acclaiming repeatedly the General. When at last he appeared on the balcony, the victorious general was wildly cheered by the grateful Luxembourgers.

Often enough in the course of its millenary history Luxembourg had had to fear the worst, so it will be easy to understand how much the Luxembourgers were relieved, when the Allies had got the nazis on the run. The fiends had promised they would wreck the capital if they ever had to retreat. Thank God! they had no time to do so.

Modern Luxembourg is a gay city, full of vitality, with wide avenues, busy thoroughfares, and pleasant residential quarters, with elegant bridges and imposing viaducts spanning ravines and valleys.

There are hardly any industrial plants at all around or in the city and the meadows and woods of the surrounding country seem to creep right up to the core of Luxembourg. Everywhere, in the idyllic parks in the squares, in the gardens there are roses and roses.

There are many cities of 80.000 inhabitants in Europe, but most of them are provincial cities, cathedral towns, or industrial centres. Luxembourg is a capital and a cathedral town as well. It is the religious centre of the country and the cathedral has become the church of Our Lady of Luxembourg. In May processions of pilgrims pour into the city from all over the country.

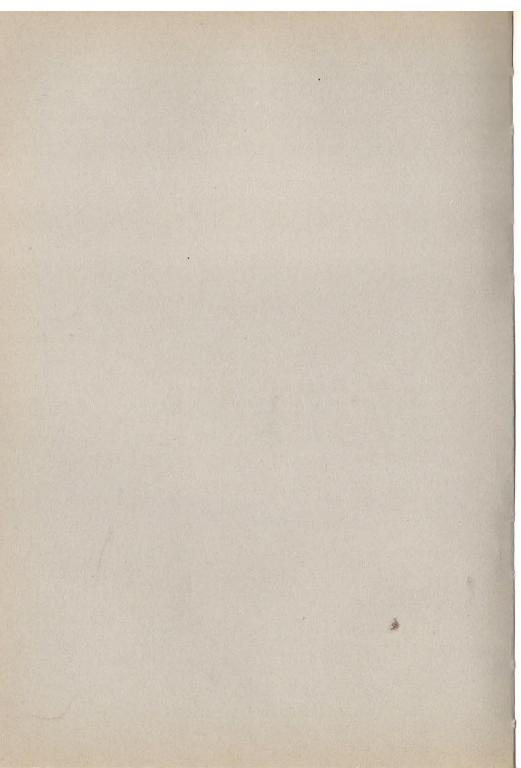
The church itself is a fine building half old, half modern. The ancient part with its fine porch, gallery and oratories is an outstanding example of late Renaissance style. The other half is quite modern and has already become famous for its magnificent stained glass windows and mosaics.

The Grand Ducal Palace, a relic of Spanish occupation, is built in the style of the Spanish Renaissance (with traces of Moresque influence) and looks on the Place Guillaume.

— The Chamber of Deputies adjoints it. — The College near the Cathedral, in former times (17th and 18th centuries) a famous Jesuit school, is the country's oldest college. (All Luxembourg secondary schools are day schools and provide for good instruction in classical and modern Languages, Mathematics and Science. The



The New Theatre of Luxembourg





Radio Luxembourg

Above: H. R. H. Grand Duchess Charlotte, Princess Elizabeth and Prince Charles at the inauguration of the new station auditorium in May 1953





Radio Luxembourg Orchestra

Administrative Building

pupils go to these schoools from the age of twelve and leave them at nineteen.)

Cinemas, a new theatre, a symphony orchestra and Radio-Télé-Luxembourg provide for entertainment of the lighter as well as of the more serious kinds.

Playing fields, a fine stadium, a golf links and tennis courts (we certainly could do with more)) give opportunity for out-of-door sports. The Luxembourgers do not play cricket or baseball, but they are enthusiastic about cycling, football and athletics. Incidentally the « Tour de France », Europe's greatest long distance bicycle race, has been won by Luxembourgers several times already. Cycling, soccer and athletics are the favourites with the younger folks, many love hiking, swimming and canoeing but, when getting on in years, the Luxembourgers seem to grow very fond of fishing and shooting.

The average Luxembourg is an active and enterprising fellow, who keeps abreast of the times and yet loves traditions and quaint customs. He gets round a good deal and, the more he does, the fonder he becomes of his country and its capital which, to put it in a nutshell is a beauty, yes, and definitely no Sleeping Beauty. It is a city of many memories and a city with a future.



From Good Friday to Easter Sunday the churchbells are silent. They have, according to Luxembourg folklore, flown to Rome to confess. The kids take over and go the rounds calling people to the morning service.

Candlemas is another great day for the kids. Candlemas Eve (St. Blaise) they go round, sing a rhyme and collect nuts, apples, buns and candy



CHAPTER THREE

AN OUTLINE OF LUXEMBOURG HISTORY

1

LUXEMBOURG IN MEDIÆVAL TIMES

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as it is nowadays, is small, very small indeed, but, please do not forget, that in the Middle Ages it was somewhat larger (four times as large as it is now) and as many people might like to know what has happened to it, the following outline will furnish some information. Luxembourg is famous for its



A fine specimen of Celtic craftsmanship. Two thousand years ago the Celts inhabited the country. The Romans came and conquered it. Archeologists have found many fine relics of ancient times that can be seen in the Museum of Luxembourg.

uncompromising sense of independence and for its irrepressible vitality, yet it is the glorious past looming in the background that lends colour and authority to the Grand Duchy of to-day.

There was a time when Luxembourgers attained to the highest honours, when a few of them assumed control of the destiny of a large part of Europe, and it is thanks



A relic of the first count of Luxembourg Sigefroid's castle on the «Bock» (963 A.D.)

to them that Luxembourg has never been forgotten. It was in the Dark Ages, in the tenth (10th) century to be precise, in the period when the countries of Europe began to shape, that Luxembourg came into existence. On April 12th 963 Sigefroid, a descendant of the noble house of Ardennes acquired a small ruined stronghold built, according to tradition by the Romans on a mighty rock (the Bock) at Luxembourg.

« Sigefroid », I quote from Robert J. Casey's interesting book published by Leonard Parsons, London in 1924, « was « the first prince of a long and illustrious line. Of his « blood were Cunegonde, saint and empress; Ermesinde, « Countess of Luxembourg, patroness of religion and admi« nistrative genius; Henri VII, Emperor of Germany; John « the Blind of Bohemia, a kingly knight errant, at once « the most picturesque, the most heroic and the most « pathetic figure of his time; Charles IV, head of the « Roman Empire; Sigismond an other emperor and Wil- « liam the Silent, founder of the Dutch Republic. As the « progenitor of this great dynasty alone he would have « merited an immortal memory. »

There is however yet another reason why Sigefroid will never be forgotten. A beautiful legend is woven around him and the foundation of Luxembourg, a strange romantic tale worth mentioning in a few sentences.

Once upon a time a knight by the name of Sigefroid went hunting in the Ardennes. One evening, when winding his way through the idyllic valley of the Alzette, he came to an old castle lying in ruins on the top of a rock. While picking his way among the rubble, he suddenly heard an alluring song and looking around to find out where it came from, he saw a beautiful girl high up on the ruins. It was Melusine, the fairy of the Alzette. However, no sooner had she seen the knight than she dropped her green veil and vanished with the last rays of the evening sun.

Time and again the knight returned to the scene of his vision and courted the mysterious beauty, who finally fell in love with him. She agreed to marry him on condition that she should never have to leave the rock, that he should never try to see her on Saturdays and that he should never ask her any awkward questions about her

doings on Saturday. Sigefroid bound himself by oath to abide by her terms and acquired the ruined fort on top of the rugged cliff. Lacking the funds to build a castle worthy of his love, he concluded a pact with the Evil One, making over his soul to him on condition that Satan helped him build his palace. And lo! overnight a magnificent castle was errected on the Bock; the lovers married and were happy,—not ever after but for a considerable time. Sigefroid's envious friends noticed Melusine's strange habit of disappearing on Saturdays, and they tried to make him suspicious by all sort of dark hints, Needless to say they succeeded and one Saturday Sigefroid tiptoed to his wife's apartments. Eavesdropping at the door he heard water rippling and splashing, he peeped through the keyhole and saw beautiful Melusine bathing and then-oh horror!he discovered that the limbs of his beloved ended in horrible tail like a mermaid's. At the sight of this he cried out in a dismay and that very moment Melusine vanished - he had lost her for ever!

The fairy, the guardian of the destiny of Luxembourg is imprisoned in the rock. Every seven years she comes back for a moment, sometimes as a beautiful woman, sometimes in the form of a serpent, holding in her mouth a small gold key waiting for the chivalrous man who, by taking the key, rescues her. (Cf. Gredt: Sagenschatz des Luxemburger Landes, and Casey's: The Land of Haunted Castles.)

That, of course, is a fairy tale; what have the historians found out about the origin of Luxembourg? As already pointed out, count Sigefroid came into possession of Lucilinburhuc=little burg=little fort, and of its surrounding on April 12th 963. He reconstructed it and the



Henry's entry into Milan in 1310 A.D. (Codex Balduineus). Henry VII was the first count of Luxembourg to be elected Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire

primate for institution transmiss resignates accounts insulations and primate for the configuration of the configu

Echternach's Charter of Freedom granted by Ermesinde in 1236 A.D.

stronghold gave its name to the town and the little kingdom which developed around it, under the reign of Sigefroid and his successors. The counts were resolute and
warlike men, coveting riches and fame, keen on enlarging
their possessions at the expense of their neighbours. They
were quick to draw their swords against the bishop of
Treves in theis disputes about customs on the Moselle
and claims on lands in the neighbourhood of Treves. One
of them even made the bishop a prisoner and was promptly
excommunicated by the Pope. To make amends for this
misdeed, he had to promise, to go on a pilgrimage to the
Holy Land; he kept his promise—twenty years later
though. Quite a few Luxembourg barons fell in Mesopotamia and Asia Minor during the Crusades.

In the 13th century Luxembourg had gained in importance and size. The town had become so large that a second ring of walls had to be built. Parts of these walls are still standing. The territory belonging to the counts of Luxembourg comprised sizable parts of the Walloon country and French language and civilisation gained a secure foothold which they were never to lose.

Ermesinde, a countess reigning from 1196 to 1247, was a very clever diplomat who succeeded in tripling the size of her country. Besides that she reformed the administration for the benefit of the people, granted charters of freedom to Echternach (1236), Thionville (1239) and Luxembourg (1244) and provided for better education. She was one of the greatest of our sovereigns.

Ermesinde's son, Henri V, inherited his mother's diplomatic ability, as may be gathered from the fact, that he obtained, that the powerful count of Vianden, the owner

of vast properties, recognized his suzerainty. These periods of peaceful development were of course interrupted by wars, during which the elite of the Luxembourg nobility was killed. But the splendour of the House of Luxembourg was to come in the 14th century, when it began to play an important part in Europe. In 1309 Henry VII, count of Luxembourg, became Emperor of the Holy Roman Em-



The seal of John the Blind (1310-1346,) Luxembourg's National Hero

pire and after him three other members of his dynasty ascended the imperial throne, four were kings of Bohemia and one was also king of Hungary at the same time. The Luxembourg princesses married the kings of the neighbouring countries; the princes were educated at the most magnificent court of these times, the court of France; great scholars and artists gathered at their courts and celebrated their reigns. (Dante, Petrarch.)

John (1310-1346), Count of Luxembourg and King of Bohemia, became Luxembourg's national hero and, there is no doubt about it, he was a dazzling cavalier, warlike, gallant and witty, a spendthrift daredevil though. His beautiful seal gives a pretty good idea of what he must have looked like, when cantering about Europe looking for a battle in full swing. Once while crossing the swamps of Lithuania, during one of his campaigns, he developed eye trouble; he consulted a physician, who only made things worse and John got him thrown into the Oder at Breslau; that however did not prevent him from losing his eyesight altogether. Blind as he was, he did not hesitate to lead his followers into the battle of Crécy 1346 to help his ally, the King of France to repulse the English. When he heard that the French lines were wavering, he ordered his bodyguard to lead him into the thick of the fray and was killed with all his followers but two. Edward III's son, the Black Prince, the Prince of Wales, who won his spurs in this battle, is reported to have adopted the crest of three ostrich feathers of John's helmet and his motto: « Ich dien » i. e.: « I serve » to honour the gallant count. At any rate ever since the times of the Black Prince, the three ostrich feathers and the motto: « Ich dien » are to be found on the coat of arms of the Prince of Wales.

Charles IV (1346-1353), Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire and King of Bohemia, was less of an impetuous knight errant but more of an astute statesman. During his reign the House of Luxembourg ruled over the greater part of Europe, over a territory stretching from the mouth of the Schelde to the Carpathians. Charles made a Duchy out of the county of Luxembourg which, under the rule

of his brother Wenzeslas I (1353-1383), attained its greatest expansion.

Unfortunately this period of unrivalled glory for the dynasty of Luxembourg ruined the finances of the duchy. It was mortgaged and pawned, passed through many hands, and was finally conquered by Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy (1443).

II

UNDER FOREIGN RULE

The history of Luxembourg for the next four hundred years, is mostly part of the history of other nations. The duchy lost its dynasty, its independence, its autonomy; it became a province. From 1443 to 1506 Luxembourg belonged to Burgundy, from 1506 to 1714 to Spain, from 1714 to 1795 to Austria, und twice it became a part of France, from 1684 to 1697 under Louis XIV, and from 1795 to 1814 under Napoleon I. For rather a long period Luxembourg was the most southernly part of the Low Countries, and though it was a privileged province, with special rights, it was only as a province that it lived through the great periods of European History: The Renaissance, the Reformation and the XVIII century.

Nevertheless, during these four hundred years of foreign rule the people of Luxembourg never forgot that they had been independent and they never gave up their individuality. None of the surrounding nations managed to assimilate them and the duchy remained a distinct principality. Under Spanish rule, for instance, the Luxem-

bourgers protested against all attempts of reducing their country to the status of a province. Nor were they satisfied with voicing ineffective protests, they carried their point. The foreign rulers did not treat the duchy as they treated the other provinces of their empire.

The standing of the Luxembourg delegates in the assemblies of the Low Countrie's representatives illustrates the special treatment to which the country was entitled. They took the oath of allegiance to their sovereign by lifting only one finger instead of two. It was not because they intended to lessen the stringency of their oath (the loyalty of the Luxembourgers was proverbial) but because they stubbornly refused to be put on the same footing as the rest of the Low Countries.

Their sovereigns were, as a rule, wise enough to face the facts and they acknowledged the privileges of Luxembourg. Thus, a King of Spain or Austria, Emperor of the Holy Empire etc. would for instance not forget to mention that he was Duke of Luxembourg whenever giving the full list of his official titles and, by so doing, showed that he was fully conscious of the fact that the duchy was a distinct unit.

When, under the rule of the Habsburgs, the country had been put on the same footing as the other Austrian provinces, for administrative purpose, it still had its own governor and even enjoyed something like independence. Small and unimportant as these facts may seem, they have a very special significance in Luxembourg history.

Peter Ernst, Count of Mansfeld, who lived from 1545 to 1604, was the most distinguished of the governors of Luxembourg. Unfortunately there hardly remains anything

of the magnificent residence he built himself on the outskirts of Luxembourg, but the townhall erected in his governorship is a striking exemple of the Spanish renaissance style; it has survived the numerous bombardments the town sustained and has become a part of the Grand Ducal palace. During the bitter years of religious strife, of endless wars, with only few and very brief spells of peace, the Low Countries suffered immensely; the Luxembourgers remained faithful to the Roman Catholic creed and in those hard times, in 1666 they chose Our Lady, the Blessed Virgin, Consolatrix Afflictorum to be the Patroness of their country. Ever since, during the religious festival taking place in May, every parish in the country goes on a pilgrimage to Luxembourg cathedral thanking our Lady for Her help, imploring Her protection.

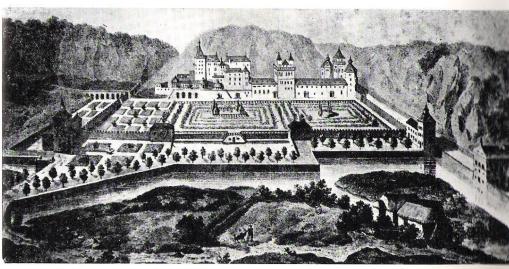
Those were the times when the name of Luxembourg was known to all the military commanders in Europe. Indeed the city had become a formidable fortress, the strongest in Europe; it was called the Gibraltar of the North.

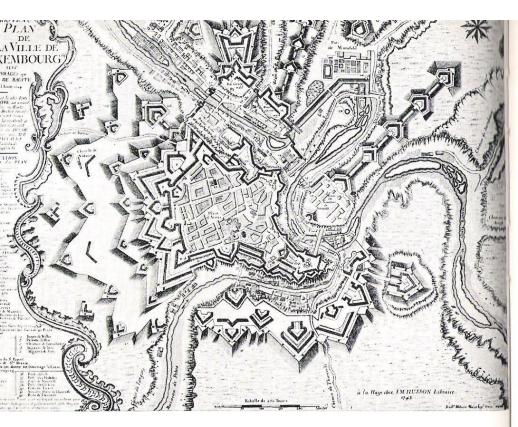
Far away from the centre of the old city were the outworks with flanking defences, forts and bastions, perched on unscalable rocks, moat and glacis, redoubts, ravelins and curtains. The citadel, a mighty rock, possessed a unique system of casemates sunk in the rock, connected by miles of corridors forming a subterranean fortress with barracks, store rooms and gun emplacements. Spanish, Austrian and French engineers did their utmost to make it impregnable. In the city proper the burghers were nearly outnumbered by the garrison. For more than a hundred years wars raged around the walls of the stronghold and the names of the greatest European generals turn up in



Luxembourg in the 17th century

The Renaissance castle built by Governor P. E. Mansfeld (1545-1604 A.D.)





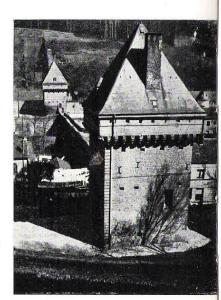
xembourg, the Gibraltar of the North, nous for its formidable defences both below and above ground



Left:

The Casemates a subterranean fortress blasted out of the rock

Right : Fortifications built by Vauban



its history: Vauban, the famous French fortification specialist; Marshal Créqui; Louis XIV, the greatest of all French kings; John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, an ancestor of Sir Winston Churchill's, and Napoleon 1.

The general who was set the task of taking Luxembourg dreaded the cost of this operation. It was no easy job. It took him weeks and months to battle his way through the outer defences and then he only found himself in front of a lofty citadel with sheer walls and cliffs, bristling with guns. The safest method was to besiege the fortress, to try to reduce the garrison to starvation, or to bribe a traitor.

It was only after sustaining heavy losses and after launching several unsuccessful assaults that Louis XIV captured the fortress in 1684.

« The strategic importance of Luxembourg », as R. J. Casey very aptly puts it, « is indicated by the fact that « the Great Powers (Spain, Austria, France, and later on, « Prussia) did not covet it so much as a useful possession, « but each craved possession to keep the other from getting « it. And so came wars—wars innumerable, bloody and « inexcusable. »

Luxembourg, the city, the country, and the population suffered horribly and if, nowadays, there are relatively few historic monuments of outstanding beauty in the country, please remember that those endless wars are responsible for that.

Is it astonishing then that the territory of the duchy has dwindled away in the course of the continuous wars and struggles amongst the rivalling Great Powers of Europe? The first partition of Luxembourg was decided

on at the Treaty of the Pyrenees in 1659. An important part of Luxembourg comprising the fertile and densely inhabited districts of Thionville, Montmédy, Ivoix- Carignan, Damvillers, Chauvency and Marville was ceded to France.

CEDED TO PRUSSIA

(TREATY OF VIENNA 1815)

CEDED TO BELGIUM

(TREATY OF LONDON 1831/39)

THE 19th AND 20th CENTURIES

In 1867 the fortress was dismantled, and where once there were forts and bastions you find beautiful parks and residential quarters. How did that come about? Well it happened like this.

In 1815, at the end of the Napoleonic wars—a terrible period for the peasants of the Ardennes, who in the course of desperate rising fought the French soldiers with cudgels and scythes—the era of foreign rule came to end, at least officially.

In 1815 the Congress of Vienna decided that Luxembourg was to regain her autonomy. « It established the « Kingdom of the Netherlands, uniting Holland and Bel-« gium under William I, Prince of Orange-Nassau-Vian-« den and Grand Duke of Luxembourg. » (Cf. Arthur Herchen: Manuel d'histoire nationale and R. J. Casey: The Land of Haunted Castles.)

The frontiers were rearranged, the country lost a district to Prussia. In 1839 it had to cede the western half of its territory to Belgium. Nevertheless for every district Luxembourg lost, it gained a higher rank. Thus in 1815 it became a Grand Duchy, and in 1839 it became independent. Small though the country was, the fact that one of Europe's mightiest fortresses was standing in its centre very nearly proved disastrous. Napoleon III wanted to have Luxembourg as a compensation for Prussia's increase in strength. Bismarck would not allow of that and war was only avoided in the last moment, when the pleni-

CEDED TO FRANCE

(TREATY OF THE PYRENEES 1659)

potentiaries of Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, France, Prussia, and Russia met in London and proclaimed that Luxembourg was to be an independent and neutral state and that the fortress was to be dismantled. Thus the integrity, the independence, and the neutrality of Luxembourg were guaranteed by the Treaty of London May 11th 1867 and the Grand Duchy was placed under the protection of the Powers that signed it.

The two treaties of 1839 and 1867, signed both in London, have created modern Luxembourg, not only by settling the controversial question of its frontiers, but also by giving it its distinct political status, and ever since the Grand Duchy has faithfully fulfilled all its obligations as a sovereign state.

Some people have claimed that this small state has no a raison d'être that it ought to become a part of a larger country and that it existed only because none of the surrounding nations would let the other have it. We Luxembourgers maintain and our claim has been acknowledged by leading, foreign statesmen that Luxembourg has every right to exist, because its people possess a distinct individuality of their own, being neither Germans, nor Belgians, nor Frenchmen. His Excellency, Mr. Joseph Bech, then former Foreign Minister of Luxembourg, has authoritatively made this clear in the Luxembourg Grey Book, published in London on May 10th 1942:

« It has often been said—and especially by German writers wishing to serve their imperialistic thesis— that the Grand Duchy is only an artificial creation of European diplomacy. This is not true. From the fifteenth century onwards Luxembourg was a distinct principality enjoying its privileges as such whether under the domi-

nation of Burgundy, of Spain, or of Austria. It had nothing in common with the other provinces of the Low Countries beyond the fate of sharing with them foreign domination. As an English historian put it:

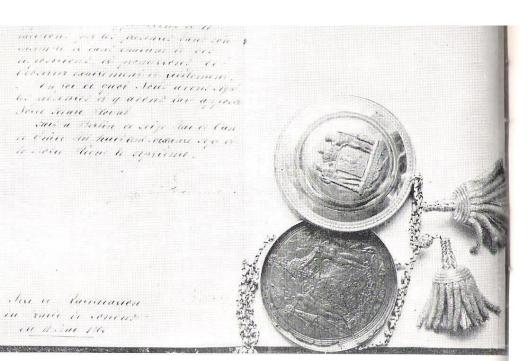
« Surrounded by France, Germany, and Belgium, this « little country is neither French, Belgian or German, nor « a mixture of the three, but has an entirely distinctive « physical, social, and ethnical character of its own. »

The Luxembourg individuality which has found its expression in the Luxembourg State has existed— not without grandeur—through long centuries; it has maintained itself under successive foreign dominations which have completely failed either to destroy or weaken it. When in 1815, 1839 and 1867 the Powers expressly recognized the existence of this individuality by conceding to the Grand Duchy the exercice of the right of sovereignty, they merely consecrated a historical fact.

The preservation of this individuality throughout the vicissitudes of our history is truly remarkable. Our native language is as far from modern German as is, for instance, the Dutch language. The area where it is spoken extends to the boundaries of the country as they were when Luxembourg was four times its present size.

If I mention this fact it is with no imperialistic thought of territorial claims in my mind, but to emphasize this language factor as a strong additional proof of an ethnical individuality that gives us an inherent right to independence. Add to this the passionate will of the Luxembourg people to independence which finds expression in our century old national song: « We want to remain what we are ». 1)

¹⁾ Cf. The Luxembourg Grey Book, p, 6, Preface.





The Treaty of London, May 11th 1867, guaranteeing the integrity, the independence and the neutrality of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. One of the « scraps of paper » trodden under foot by the Prussians in 1914 and in 1940

The equestrian statue of the King-Grand Duke William II, 1840 to 1849, one of the most popular sovereigns of Luxembourg

From 1815 to 1890 William I, II, and III, the Kings of Holland, were at the same time the Grand Dukes of Luxembourg. Since 1890 however the Grand Duchy has had its own dynasty, the House of Nassau-Weilbourg. The Grand Duke Adolphe reigned from 1890 to 1905, the Grand Duke William IV from 1905 to 1912; the Grand Duchess Marie Adelaide reigning from 1912 to 1919, was succeeded by her sister, the Grand Duchess Charlotte who on November 6th 1919 married Prince Félix de Bourbon-Parma. Their heir to the throne is Prince Jean who was born on January 5th 1921.

The Grand Duchy, governed under the constitution of 1868 as amended in 1919, is a constitutional monarchy, a democratic independent and sovereign state. Executive power rests with the Grand Duke, a Minister of State and a cabinet of five or six Ministers; Legislative power rests with a Chamber of Deputies, elected by universal suffrage (men and women over 21).

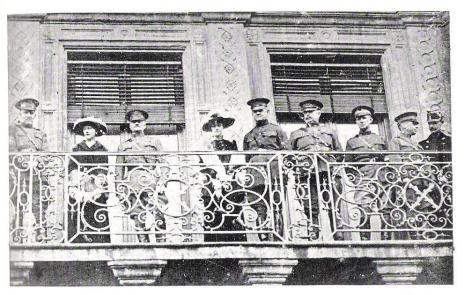
In the early 19th century thousands of Luxembourgers emigrated to the United States of America which have become a home for these people who, let it be said in their honour, have done their utmost to strengthen the ties of American-Luxembourg friendship. The country was not too well-off and it was only about the middle of the 19th century, after the discovery of iron-ore in the south, and after the invention of an English engineer, Sir Thomas Gilchrist, that the country began to prosper.

Alas the war of 1914-1918 put an end to this period of prosperity. In August 1914 the Germans violated the neutrality of Luxembourg. They invaded and occupied the country, had the germanophobe Luxembourgers arrested and thrown into prison, and though, apart from that, they did not interfere too much with domestic affairs the joy of the citizens of Luxembourg was indescribable, when the Central Powers collapsed. The Armistice saved Luxembourg from the horrors of war and the American soldiers liberating the Grand Duchy got a tremendous welcome: General Pershing was received by Marie Adelaide and was enthusiastically cheered when he appeared on the balcony of the Grand Ducal Palace.

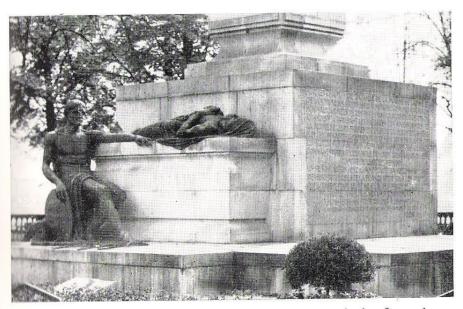
3000 Luxembourgers fighting in the French and American armies had been killed in action and a fine monument was erected in Luxembourg to honour their memory. The Nazis, by the way, demolished it in 1940 in spite of the demonstrations of the Luxembourg. (After world war II it was rebuilt.)

In the course of the deliberations preceding the Treaty of Versailles, President Wilson safeguarded the interests and the rights of the small nations and of Luxembourg, and, by doing so, he won the hearts of the Luxembourg people. He, to a great extent, was responible for the happy times Luxembourg enjoyed during the 20 years following the Great War. The Luxembourgers themselves, industrious and painstaking, did their bit and before the second Great War the Grand Duchy had become a tidy and prosperous country.

When reestablished as a free country after 1918 the Grand Duchy proved a progressive state. Suffrage was extended to women and a fine Public Welfare and Social Security system was introduced. The standard of living was high and despite the diminutive size, the country did play a fairly important part in Europe thanks to its steel industry. The steelplants prospered beyond expec-



General Pershing on the balcony of the Grand Ducal Palace between the late Grand Duchess Marie-Adelaide and Grand Duchess Charlotte November 21st 1918



The War Memorial erected to the memory of the Luxembourg volunteers of World War I

tation and round about 1930 Luxembourg occupied the seventh rank among the world's big steel producers. When the International Steel Cartel was founded in Luxembourg in 1926, a Luxembourger. Emile Mayrisch, was elected chairman. In 1920 Luxembourg became a member of the League of Nations. It took part in the great exhibitions in Brussels, Liège, Paris and in the World's Fair in New York 1939.

During the 20 happy years between the two wars the Grand Duchess Charlotte was the guardian of the destiny of the country. The people of the Grand Duchy are usually reserved and shy of showing their feelings. In 1939, however, for once they showed them. When the celebration of the Centenary of the renascence of our independence ended with a tremendous ovation for the Royal Family, the whole world was able to see how much the Luxembourgers adored their Gracious Sovereign, who so nobly embodied the nation's traditions and aspirations.

Although none of the Luxembourg authors has gained international reputation the country possesses a literature of its own with novels, plays, poetry written in the Luxembourg, French or German language. Reynard the Fox, a long poem, by Michel Rodange (1827-1867) may in some ways be considered as the finest typically Luxembourg achievement. Besides poetry and fiction, history and folklore appear to be the favourite subjects with our writers.

Ever since the rebirth of our independence in 1815, architects, sculptors, and above all painters have endeavoured to enrich the nation's heritage. Liez and Fresez were the two outstanding artists of the last century. A group of impressionists, the members of the Cercle Artistique, founded in 1893, have contributed their share to the

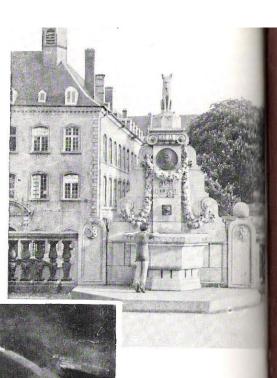
development of modern art in the country. In Joseph Kutter (1894-1941) Luxembourg possesses a prominent representative of expressionist art ranking among the distinguished European artists such as the Frenchmen Vlaminck and Rouault and the Belgian Permeke. Before the War his painting were exhibited in the leading art



galleries in Paris, Brussels, Munich, Berlin, Zurich, and New York, His impressive, unacademic style, the luminosity of his colours and the distinctive individuality of his colour scheme strike a very personal note.

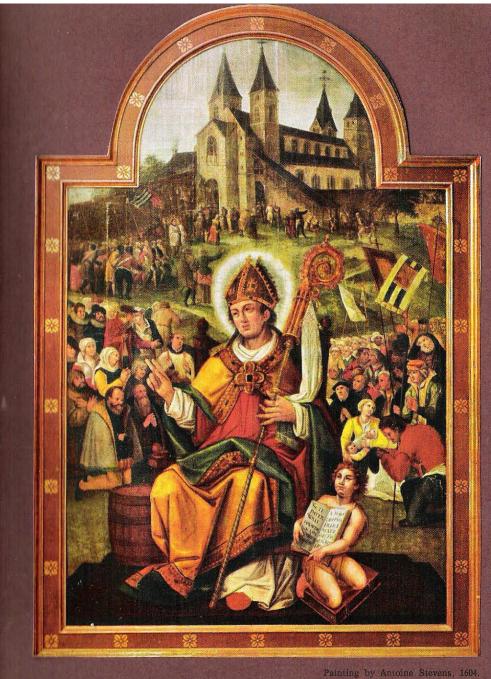
The Grand Ducal Institute, founded in 1868, comprising a History, a Science as well as a philological sec-

The Michel Rodange Memorial on the Place Guillaume, Luxembourg-City. Michel Rodange's epic poem « Reynard the Fox » is an outstanding achievement in Luxembourg literature

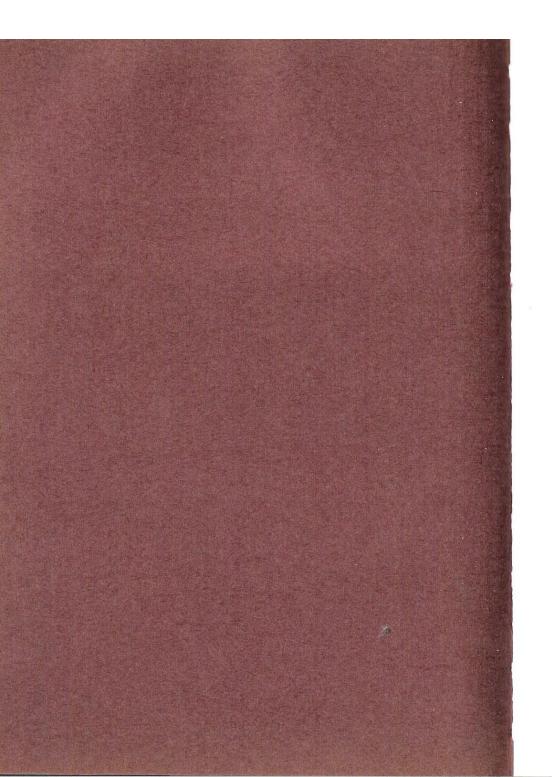




Clervaux, a painting by Joseph Kutter (1894-1941)



Saint Willibrord



tion, has filled an important role in encouraging research work.—The National Museum at Luxembourg exhibits objects of historic interest found in and connected with Luxembourg. The collections are mainly classified by periods and grouped as follows: Prehistoric, Celtic, Roman. Frankish, and Medieval.— The National Library possesses some very fine manuscripts and incunabula among its 600.000 volumes.



CHAPTER FOUR

LUXEMBOURG AND THE SECOND WORLD-WAR

I

THE GERMAN INVASION

When war broke out in 1939, Luxembourg found itself in a precarious situation; its independence and integrity had been recognised anew in the treaty of Versailles. Yet who knew for certain that it would be respected?

On May 10th 1940 the countryside echoed to the boom of German guns, the roar and drone of German tanks and aeroplanes. The Germans had invaded the country again! Fortunately the Grand Ducal family and the members of the Government were able to escape to Great Britain and to the United States of America.

This was an act of supreme importance and it cannot be doubted that it decided the fate of our small state and that it was strictly in accordance with the interests of the nation. It was even more. For by seeking refuge in Great Britain and the United States, the Grand Duchess joined the defenders of Freedom and Justice, made common cause with the Democracies and a determined stand against the agressor. The significance of this decision was fully appreciated by the Statesmen of Great Britain and the United States and the Luxembourgers have since been able to express their heartfelt thanks to their gracious Sovereign and Her Ministers for what they did.

This step was strictly in accordance with the interests of the nation, for the theorists of National Socialist Germany kept claiming that Luxembourg was German territory and that it belonged to Greater Germany. Thus it had become evident that if Luxembourg was not to be incorporated in the Third Reich, its independence and sovereignty could only be safeguarded by the Democracies who had taken up arms for the cause of the small nations. It was with a heavy heart that the Grand Duchess took that fateful decision of leaving Luxembourg. But Her Royal Highness had realised that it was only with the help of the Great Allies that the country could be saved from utter ruin.

Moreover this course of action did not lack the necessary legal foundation. Two laws passed unanimously by the Chamber of Deputies in 1938 and 1939 authorised the Government to « take any steps required to preserve the safety of the State and its inhabitants ».

Finally, the step taken on May 10th 1940 was a turning point in Luxembourg History since it involved the end of the country's policy of neutrality, to which it had been pledged ever since the London treaty of 1867, and which it had most loyally pursued for three quarters of a century despite considerable difficulties. The moment had come to give up neutrality. Twice in the course of twenty-five

years Germany had trodden under foot the rights and treaties sacred to other nations. « A l'acte hostile que constituait l'invasion allemande il fallait répondre par l'hostilité. »—The only possible answer to the German invasion was hostility», declared His Excellency, the Minister of State Mr. Pierre Dupong. Thus Luxembourg entered the war on the side of the Allies. The declaration of war, though in some ways only a symbolic act, expressed the feelings of the people. Indeed the Luxembourgers had never been neutral in their hearts. They leaned towards France and « popular sentiment was thoroughly antiprussian ».

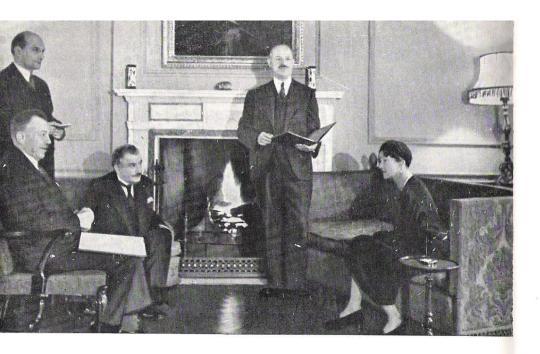
That was clearly shown by the attitude of the Luxembourgers who resisted the oppressor.

When the American Chargé d'Affaires to Luxembourg, Mr. George Platt Waller, returned to the States in 1941, he paid the following tribute to the resistance of the Luxembourgers: « When I recall », he said, « the glories of the soul which have blossomed under the ploughshare of adversity. I am uplifted and edified by the example of the patriotism burning in each Luxembourg breast and I feel that this suffering has not been in vain and that her subjects, always loving her and cherishing the Grand Duchess' sacred person as the symbol of their independence and the incarnation of their national unity, now feel for their Sovereign a passionate affection verging on the mystical, a dynamic devotion such as has never before animated a people. I need but cite the message which I was entrusted to bring her: Tell our Sovereign that we remain steadfast; tell her that we thank God that she is safe and is guarding the flame of our independence on a national altar across the seas. Tell her that we will not allow her foot to touch the ground when she returns with our liberty and happiness. Say unto her that we will carry her on our shoulders from Rodange to Luxembourg » 1).

Knowing for certain that the people would manifest their antigerman feelings, the Grand Duchess and the Government could set to work in the Free-World. They have done an excellent job. Luxembourg was recognised as one of the United Nations, was admitted as such to the inter-allied meetings and conferences and was able to adhere to twelve noteworthy international agreements such as the Declaration of St. Jame's Palace of June 12th 1941 and September 24th 1941 and so on.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Grand Duchess, Prince Felix, the Hereditary Grand Duke Jean who, as President Roosevelt had advised them to do, « put Luxembourg on the map », the English speaking nations got to know Luxembourg through lectures, books and periodicals e. g. The Luxembourg Grey Book (Hutchinson & Co), the Luxembourg Bulletin and others. Prince Felix and Prince Jean joined the British army, young Luxembourgers who had managed to escape volunteered for service in the British, Canadian, United States, Free French and Free Belgian Armies. The Grand Duchess, the leading spirit of the resistance, was able to win the friendship of his Majesty King George VI and President Roosevelt for her people and the Luxembourgers overseas generously did their utmost to assist Her Royal Highness. There is no doubt about it, the Grand Duchess and the Government have served their country magnificently during their exile.

¹⁾ Cf. Luxembourg Grey Book, p. 50/51.



A Cabinet Meeting in London

From right to left: H.R.H. The Grand Duchess Charlotte; Mr. Pierre Dupong, Minister of State; Mr. Joseph Bech, Foreign Affairs; Mr. Pierre Krier, Labour and Social Security; Mr. Victor Bodson, Justice

What happened meanwhile in Luxembourg? The Government of the Reich had issued a memorandum dated May 9th 1940 assuring the Luxembourg Government that « Germany does not intend to impair the integrity and independence of the Grand Duchy either now or in the future by the measures she has taken ».

The people of Luxembourg soon got to know what to think of this promise. In the days following the fateful 10th May 70.000 Luxembourgers living in the south had sought refuge in hospitable France. When they were able to return in August, they learnt to their dismay that a Nazi « Gauleiter » (regional leader) had been appointed governor of Luxembourg. The Grand Duchy was to be incorporated, to become a province of Nazi Germany. In his first speeches the « Gauleiter » insulted the Grand Duchess, adored by all Luxembourgers, in a most vile and revolting manner. That however did not prevent him from filching the furniture and the art objects belonging to the Grand Ducal family, from making a tavern (Künstlerklause) out of the palace in Luxembourg, « Hitler schools » or health resorts for artists out of the other residences.

The Chamber of Deputies and the Council of State were dissolved, many officials, high and low, were dismissed, leading politicians and journalists, known to be anti-Hitler, arrested and sent to concentration camps where many of them died. Nazis (imported from Germany) were put at the head of every department. The basic individual rights, such as freedom of the press, freedom of association, protection from arbitrary interference on the part of the authorities, every safeguard against

Below:

Secretary of State and Mrs. Cordel Hull headed the reception committee which greeted Grand Duchess Charlotte of Luxembourg, her consort and their son when they arrived at Union Station in Washington February 12th 1941 to visit President and Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House.

Left to right: Grand Duchess Charlotte, Secretary Hull, 20 years old Jean, Hereditary Grand Duke, Mrs Hull and Prince Felix, the Royal consort





Above:

February 12th 1941, Arrival at the White House, Mrs. Roosevelt welcomes the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg were abolished. There were spies and informers everywhere, People caught listening in to the B.B.C., to neutral radio stations, were sent to prison.—Luxembourg was lettered and gagged.

In this terrible situation the United States Minister to Luxembourg Mr. George Platt Waller, assisted everybody who turned to him for help. He witnessed the violation of Luxembourg and the United States and the rest of the Free World received all information about the Grand Duchy's desperate situation, its resistance and its irrepressible sense of independence. When all the diplomats residing in Luxembourg were forced to leave, Mr. George Platt Waller insisted on being appointed United States Consul at Luxembourg, though he was entitled to hold a higher position and rank, and he stayed in Luxembourg until the United States entered the war.

All Luxembourgers know that they owe this chivalrous gentleman a great debt of gratitude. The enthusiastic reception given him, when he returned to Luxembourg in November 1944, was meant to express their heartfelt gratitude.

The measures taken by the Germans in the economic sphere were no less brutal and illegal. Gold and foreign currency had to be handed in, the Luxembourg currency was replaced by the Reichsmark. Needless to say the rate of exchange was not advantageous. The surplus of the grain, pottato and fruit crops, large numbers of livestock were sent to Germany and the Luxembourgers got German rationbooks. The splendid woods and forests provided immense quantities of timber and anybody could see in

1945 for himself that the Germans had left the woods in a sorry state. The steelplants were worked day and night.

Ah! those fiends went the whole hog and they did not omit sapping the cultural foundations of Luxembourg. Religious instruction in schools, the teaching and the use of French, the country's official language for more than 800 years, was strictly forbidden. People having French family names and French Christian names were forced to change them into German names. Streetnames were germanized. Thus the «Avenue de la Liberté» a main thoroughfare in Luxembourg became overnight the «Adolf-Hitler-Straße». — Priests, lawyers, doctors and professors as well as civil servants, railwaymen and workers were arrested. Lack of space makes it impossible to enlarge on all the misdeeds of the Nazis and the Gestapo, but you can take our word for it, it was a reign of terror.

In the beginning people thought manifestations might help to make the Nazis change their minds. The spontaneous outbursts of popular feeling were however, quickly repressed by drastic methods. The ruthlessness of the Nazis could nevertheless, not prevent active and passive resistance from gaining momentum from year to year. Extreme pressure had to be brought to bear upon the workers to make them work efficiently. Acts of sabotage became more and more frequent, absenteeism and similar other tricks slowed down production, trains were derailed despite the watchful Gestapo.

In the course of the long and unequal struggle the people of the Grand Duchy won two great victories. In October 1941 the Nazis wanted to combine a census with an official declaration written by every adult Luxembourterminate. A spell of intensive terror set in, civil servants were threatened with dismissal and so on and so forth. In spite of the most brutal pressure the Luxembourgers were unanimous in turning this devilish combination into a triumph for their cause by proclaiming that they were Luxembourgers, that their mother tongue was the Luxembourg language.

The second memorable victory was gained about a year later in the early days of September 1942. On August 30th 1942 the « Gauleiter » introduced compulsory military service and the young men born between January 1st 1920 and December 31st were pressed into the «Wehrmacht ». That was the last straw! Ever since 1940 the Germans had infringed upon every law of the Constitution of the Grand Duchy. Thed had abolished the basic individual rights, had terrorised the population and now Luxembourgers were to wear the uniform of the Wehrmacht which had violated the integrity and annulled the independence of the country. Never! Luxembourg came out on strike and the colours of the Grand Duchy were nailed to the top of the tall chimneys of the steelplants. On September 1st the Germans declared martial law. They put down the revolt by shooting, by throwing many into prisons and concentration camps. Many more were deported with their families and their belongings were confiscated. Boys and girls aged 16 were taken away from the schools, from their families and sent to special camps in Germany.

Life in Luxembourg had become hell, but the people were proud. Luxembourg was the first country in occupied



September 2nd 1942 Luxembourgers were pressed into the Wehrmacht. Luxembourg came out on strike and the Germans declared martial law. Above the posters with the names of the leaders of the resistance sentenced to death

Throps that had dared to resist openly, to defy a Greater turning with the whole world was startled. The highest authorities in London and Washington extolled the gallantry of the people of Luxembourg who had shown that they were worth their salt. The country deserved its independence, it had proved worthy of its traditions.

Mr. Cordel Hull, U. S. Secretary of State, and Mr. Anthony Eden, British Foreign Minister, addressed the following messages to the people of Luxembourg in September 1942.

Mr. Cordel Hull, Secretary of State, said: « The American people have followed with deep concern the attempt of the German Reich not only to force servitude upon the proud people of Luxembourg, but in this, their latest effort, to compel the youth of that country to serve with German armed forces. The answer from Luxembourg people to this step was a general strike. German force and cruelty may crush this strike but it can never crush the indomitable spirit of the people of Luxembourg. Whatever bonds of servitude Hitler may attempt to force upon the youth of that country, the American people are confident that their spirit will always remain that of free men striving for their country's independence. »

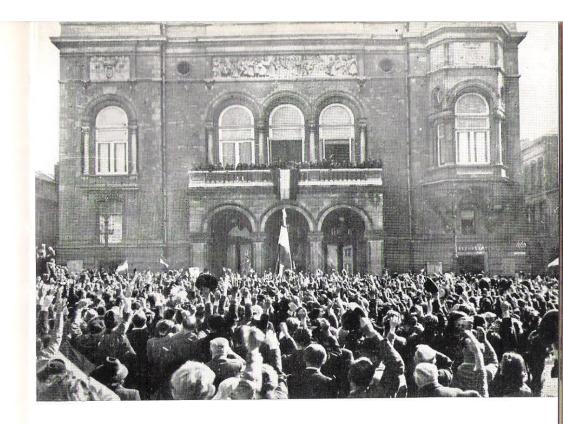
And here Mr. Anthony Eden's message: «We in England have watched with admiration and sympathy the heroic resistance to Nazy tyranny of a small but brave people. You, the people of Luxembourg, are united in your hatred of Nazism. You have shown you want to remain what you were, a free people, and by your courage and resistance you have firmly established your right to do so.

Your feelings towards your oppressors were clearly made known in October 10, 1941. Notwithstanding the elaborate preparations of the German authorities, the plebiscite which they organized was a humiliating failure; and now the Gauleiter has taken the criminal step of simply declaring the incorporation of Luxembourg in the Reich and the conscription of your youth, so that they are condemned to bear arms against your comrades of the United Nations.

This is but one further example of the German reign of brutality and contempt of human rights! The people of Britain and those of all the United Nations are determined never to lay down their arms until the civil forces which have imposed this reign on Europe are finally destroyed. Therefore, maintain your resistance! The growing might of the United Nations is the guarantee of your final liberation. »

Life in the Grand Duchy became almost unendurable since 1942. Deportation became the Gestapo's favourite method of cowing the stiffnecked Luxembourgers. Regularly, right up to August 1944 whole trainloads of people were sent to the bleak regions of Eastern Germany and penned into camps governed by picked SS. officers. According to the plans of the Hitlergang, they were never to see their homes again.

Despite the fiendish methods used by the Nazis to crush them, the Resistance groups gathered strength. They kept up the spirits of the people; at the risk of their lives, they hid many allied airmen and helped thousands of youngsters to escape from the clutches of the Wehrmacht. They took care of the « deserters » who preferred the « maquis » to the German army and several memorable



September 10th 1944. Luxembourg is liberated. The people of Luxembourg were wild with joy, when they were liberated and when they saw Prince Felix and the Hereditary Grand Duke Jean amongst the first American soldiers entering Luxembourg. The picture shows His Royal Highness Prince Felix and an American General cheered by the people of Luxembourg

skirmishes took place in the E'sleck, in the Land of Haunted Castles that had become the Land of the Rebels. With the help of the Resistance groups many young men were also able to make their escape to France and to England where they joined the F.F.I. and the English or American armies.

It is estimated that no fewer than 16.000 Luxembourgers were in German prisons and concentration camps. Many thousands more were transfered or deported.

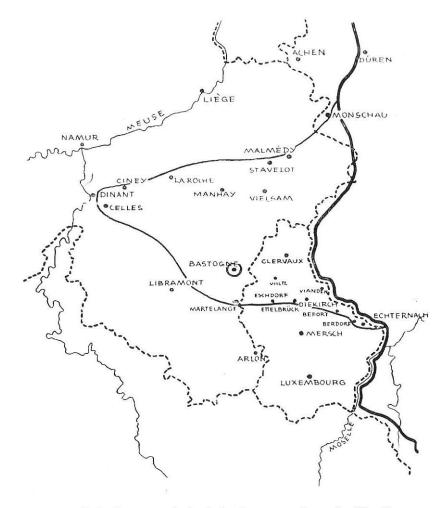
Well, now our gallant Allies can understand why the people of Luxembourg were wild with joy, when they were liberated, when they saw Prince Felix and Prince Jean amongst the first American soldiers entering Luxembourg, when they heard that amongst the liberators there were old friends such as Colonel Frank E. Frazer, who as a young lieutenant had entered Luxembourg in November 1918 already. They were moved to the depths of their souls, when they found out that amongst the American soldiers, who, just as in 1918, won their hearts straight away, there were quite a few of Luxembourg descent, who had come to defend the country of their ancestors.

II

THE BATTLE OF THE ARDENNES

(AS SEEN FROM LUXEMBOURG)

The days from September 10th to December 16th were happy and carefree. The country was free again and the people were tempted to forget the war which was still



on their doorsteps. Indeed the front ran along the Moselle, the Sure and the Our, along the frontier separating Luxembourg from Germany and the inhabitants of the borderline had had to be evacuated. Dimly the people realized that hard times were still ahead, but, as all was quiet on the Luxembourg sector, they were hopeful and confident. And then—like a bolt out of the blue—came the Rundstedt counteroffenssive.

The Battle of tithe Ardennes began on December 16th, when the Germanss struck along a seventy miles front between Montschau-Schleiden in the north and Vianden-Echternach in thee south.

They had clevely chosen their battleground and had timed the blow weell. Wrote an American correspondent: « For the first sevven days the clouds hung low over the forests and hills . shielding the German spearheads from the overpowering . Allied airforces. The Allies were in the position of a man fighting a mortal enemy with one hand tied behind his boack. » 1)

During those gloomy days the German overran the nothern half of the country and the panic-stricken inhabitants fled westweards or southwards, forsaking all their belongings. Agains, many of those who were not able to escape were shot cor deported to Germany. December 19th was one of the moost dismal days, the City of Luxembourg was shelled and the German tanks were only a few miles away.

It was then that Patton, in one of the fastest moves in military historry, rushed up reinforcements from the south and saved Lluxembourg and the rest of the country from utter ruin. For days and days Patton's columns rolled up and the Good Lland could witness the tremendous build-up which was too enable the Allied armies to hurt the Germans back. The two flanks of the bulge were streng-



This is what the Rundstedt offensive meant to Luxembourg



¹⁾ Cf. Life, Janua ary 8th 1945.



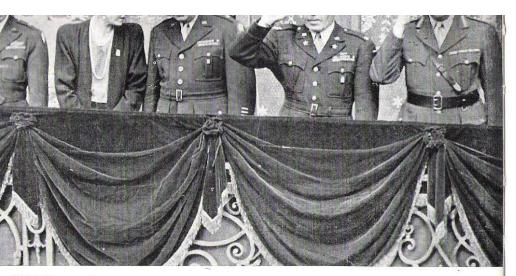
U. S. Military Cemetery at Hamm(3 miles from Luxembourg)



General Dwight D. Eisenhower on General Patton's tomb at Hamm Military Cemetery, April 26th, 1952

thened and soon the big squeeze began. The Germans had dug themselves in northwards of a line running straight across the country from Echternach to Befort, Diekirch. Ettelbruck, Eschdorf, Martelange and prolonging itself to Libramont, Rochefort, Marche and Verre in Belgium.

By Friday December 22nd Patton was ready to attack. On December 23rd the weather cleared and the planes of the U.S. ninth Air Force under the command of General Hoyt S. Vandenberg went to work. Thanks to the epic resistance of the famous Bastogne outfit, of the combat teams and task forces in the outskirts of Luxembourg and Echternach, the Rundstedt thrust had been contained and blunted in the Luxembourg sector and soon the second liberation of the North gathered way. On December 29th the Americans crossed the Sure, took Insenborn and Eschdorf, by-passed Beaufort and cleared Berdorf. On December 30th and 31st they reconquered Echternach, Ringel, Eppeldorf, and eight other localities and crossed the Sure in four places between Diekirch and Echternach. By January 2nd 1945 they were in possession of the eastern bank of the Sure between Diekirch and Echternach. They crossed the Sure south of Wiltz on January 8th and the furious battle for Wiltz began on January 9th. In the meantime the Americans on the northern flank had reached Oberwampach. The week from January 23rd to January 30th brought the liberation of Wiltz, Bastendorf, Brandenbourg, Longsdorf, Tandel, Bourscheid, Vianden, Fischbach, Heinerscheid, Weiswampach, Clervaux and many other localities. The final assault on the Siegfried line was launched on February 13 th and the tide of war rolled away from Luxembourg for good.



V-E Day in Luxembourg



Colonel Frank E. Frazer, Head of Shaef Military Mission to Luxembourg



Mr. George P. Waller the American Chargé d'Affaires to Luxembourg

The Battle of the Ardennes, upon which the Germans had set their last hopes, spelt ruin to the inhabitants of the E'sleck. The homes of more than 60.000 people were reduced to rubble, the fields and pastures were cratered by bombs and shells, rutted by the tread of countless tanks, and alive with mines. Life in that area had become a nightmare. The picturesque towns of Diekirch, Ettelbruck, Wiltz and Echternach lay in ruins. 45% of the country's farmland could not be tilled in 1945 and it has been realized that, if the relative resources and areas of the different countries through which the whirlwind of war has swept are taken into consideration, it may truly be said that Luxembourg has suffered at least as much as any other country.

The task of reconstruction has been an arduous one. Nevertheless, the Luxembourgers devoted themselves to it with the same energy with which they resisted the Germans during the five tragic years that had brought them so much misery and suffering: the reign of terror, the hardship of occupation and deportation, the horrors of concentration camps and war.

Those who first had lost heart were rapidly regaining courage, for, since April 1945, many of their relatives and friends, deported to Germany, returned in increasing numbers. The acute food shortage and the scarcity of clothing were relieved by the generous release of U. S. Army supplies, the help of the British and American Red Cross, and of UNRRA.

It is fitting that in this connection tribute be paid to the work of Colonel Frank E. Frazer, Head of the Allied Military Mission to Luxembourg. He helped Luxembourg by every means at his disposal and it was largely due to his indefatigable efforts that the general situation of the country had rapidly so much improved. Be it in matters of Relief or Repatriation or of many other kind he whole-heartedly assisted the Government and the Luxembourgers owe Colonel Frank E. Frazer a very great debt of gratitude. As several spontaneous ovations had shown, he had become one of the most popular men in the country.

The grievous loss of Franklin Delano Roosevelt (linked by relationship to the noble house of de Lannoi, Clervaux Luxembourg 1), the untimely death of that great friend of Luxembourg came as a shock to the Luxembourgers. How could it be otherwise if it is borne in mind that it was Roosevelt who extended the hospitality of the White House to Our Gracious Sovereign and who said to Her Royal Highness: « Do not worry my child, we will bring you back to Luxembourg. » The tribute paid to his memory by the Grand Duchess, when shortly after Her return, Her Royal Highness inaugurated the session of the Chamber of Deputies on April 16th 1945, convey the nation's feelings.

« Hélas, le Président Roosevelt n'est plus. L'humanité pleure en lui un de ses meilleurs et de ses plus nobles représentants. Le peuple luxembourgeois ne saura jamais assez quelles furent, pendant les épreuves de la guerre, la sollicitude et l'amitié du Président des Etats-Unis pour le Luxembourg. Je m'incline, le cœur rempli de tristesse et de gratitude, devant l'inoubliable figure du Président de la grande nation, dont les armées, en libérant notre territoire, nous ont réintégrés dans notre indépendance. La grande leçon de la vie du Président, son courage moral, doit nous inspirer au moment où nous abordons les tâches difficiles qui nous attendent au seuil de l'ère nouvelle. Comme lui nous voulons travailler sans fausse illusion et sans fausse appréhension dans un esprit de clairvoyance et de confiance. »

« Alas! President Roosevelt is no more. Humanity mourns the loss of one of its best and most noble representatives. Never will the people of Luxembourg be able fully to appreciate how great, during the ordeal, were the President's solicitude and friendship for Luxembourg. It is with sorrow and gratitude in my heart that I honour that great American, whose qualities and achievement will never be forgotten, whose armies have restored our country to its independence by liberating it from its oppressors. The great lesson taught us by the life of the President, his moral courage, must inspire us, now that we devote ourselves to the formidable tasks awaiting us at the dawn of a new era. Like him we will set to work in a spirit of levelheaded confidence, without cherishing vain illusions and without letting ourselves be discouraged by unfounded apprehensions. »

It was in the late President's honour that on April 14th the authorities of the Capital gave the finest boulevard of the city the name «Boulevard Franklin-Delano-Roosevelt».

V-E Day found the people of Luxembourg in a hopeful and confident mood, ready, to contribute their share to the

¹) Cf. V. C. Buckley, F. R. G. S. Stop and Go (Hutchinson) & Co., London, 1948). One Philip de Lannoi (= Delano), an ancestor of the late President on his mother's side, left Leyden for America in 1621 on the Fortune and landed in Plymouth, Massachusetts. — Recent authors, however, cast doubts on this relationship and descent.



The R. H. Winston Churchill addressing the Luxembourg Parliament

« I am profoundly impressed with the strong principle of yitality, of personality, which has preserved the independent and sovereign life of this ancient State, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, across so many centuries of shock and change and through the devastating cataclysm of the last two great European and world wars. »

establishment of peace and prosperity in the world and determined to honour the memory of their own dear ones and of all valiant soldiers of the United Nations who fell in a belief that their lives were given to promote the betterment of this world. They realize that, as Lincoln put it: « It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated « to the unfinished work which they who fought here « have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to « be dedicated to the great task remaining before us; that « from these honoured dead we take increased devotion « to that cause for which they gave the last full measure « of devotion. »

CHAPTER FIVE

LUXEMBOURG AFTER THE SECOND WORLD WAR

I

THE GRAND DUGAL FAMILY

When the tide of war had rolled away from Luxembourg for good H. R. H. Grand Duchess Charlotte, at that time our Sovereign, visited the devasted areas of the Ardennes highlands. Here and down south in the countries which she visited after her return from exile with the Prince of Luxembourg (Félix de Bourbon de Parme, born September 28th, 1893 at Schwarzau) she was heartily received and the acclamations of the crowds brought to her the sentiments of gratitude and admiration of her people. Since those days and on the occasions on which she acted as Sovereign of the little State — be it at the reception of the Right Hon. Winston Churchill (July 14th, 1946), of General Eisenhower (September 29th, 1946), be it that she went to Switzerland in order to express the Luxembourger's gratitude for the Swiss aid after world war II (June 25th, 1947), be it at the reception of Queen



H. M. Queen Juliana of the Netherlands paid Luxembourg an official visit on June 19th, 1951.—H.R.H. Grand Duchess Charlotte welcomes the Queen at Luxembourg Airport



From April 29th to May 4th 1963 Grand Duchess Charlotte and her son were the official guests of the President of the United States. The pictures show the reception at Washington. above: trooping the honour guard at White House; below: President J. F. Kennedy delivering his welcome speech



In Chicago Grand Duchess Charlotte got a sincere welcome. The picture shows the colourful scene in La Sallestreet at City Hall, as the Grand Duchess, escorted by Mayor Daley, reviewed the military guard of honour. May 2nd 1963



Below: Grand Duchess Charlotte and hereditary Grand Duke Jean with the Mayor of Philadelphia, Mr. James H. J. Tate, before the Liberty Bell on April 29th 1963



Juliana of the Netherlands (June 19th, 1951) — she appeared always more and in the entire acceptation of the word as the embodiment of her people's feelings. Luxembourgers were accustomed to see her driving every morning to the Palace to fulfil her official duty, receiving the ambassadors and signing legislative acts. On solemn days they showed their love by gathering by the hundreds below the balcony of the Grand ducal Palace, no matter how bad the weather, to shout a Vive Grande-Duchesse Charlotte ».

The distinction of the Grand Duchess's reign was known and recognized throughout the world. She was invited in 1963 (2-5 October) by the President of the French Republic for an official visit. President de Gaulle gave in her honour a gorgeous reception at the Elysee and at Versailles. From April the 29 to May the 4th 1963 she and her son, Prince Jean, were the official guests of President J. F. Kennedy in Washington. « Your reign has been synonymous with the growth, prosperity and well-being of the people of your country », said President Kennedy in his welcome-speech, «and your country now plays a significant rôle as a member of the European Economic Community, in the building of a stronger Europe and, we hope, a stronger Atlantic Community. »

On November 4th 1963 the Grand Duchess received in Luxembourg Mr. L. B. Johnson, Vice-President of the United States, when he has visiting Luxembourg on an official voyage in Europe. Vice-President Johnson too, found very warm and friendly words for Luxembourg. His visit took place just eighteen days before President Kennedy's death at Dallas and Mr. Johnson's accession to the supreme office of the United States. Thanks to these cir-



The International Fair of Luxembourg





Vice-President and Mrs Lyndon B. Johnson with the members of the Grand Ducal family after their reception at the Palace in Luxembourg, 4th November 1963

cumstances it happened that Luxembourg's ruler and politicians had official and personal contacts with four of the last presidents of the United States: F. D. Roosevelt, D. D. Eisenhower, J. F. Kennedy and L. B. Johnson.

For sometime before these events, Grand Duchess Charlotte had wanted to retire from public life. On May the 3rd 1961, in anticipation of this, she made her son, Prince Jean, Lieutenant Grand Duke. On November 12th 1964 Grand Duchess Charlotte after a reign of 45 years renounced the crown in favour of her son. Prince Jean took the constitutional oath on that same day. The ceremony of the abdication was held at the Palace in Luxembourg and was followed by the Grand Duke's swearing of the Oath of Accession and the Speech from the Throne in the Chamber of Deputies. In this first speech as head of state he said: « Luxembourg embarks with confidence on the road towards European Unity without betraying her institutions or traditions. »

Grand Duke Jean was born at the castle of Berg, Luxembourg, on January the 5th, 1921. He received in Luxembourg his elementary and secondary education which he completed at the college of Ampleforth, England. In 1940, when the Germans invaded Luxembourg, he left the country with the Grand ducal family. In Quebec he studied law and political science at Laval University. In November 1942 he became a volunteer in the Irish Guards. In 1944 he participated as a lieutenant in the Irish Guards in the Normandy campaign and, in September 1944, took part in the liberation of Luxembourg.

On November 7th, 1952, H. R. H. the hereditary Grand Duke Jean and H. R. H. Princess Joséphine-Charlotte of Belgium were engaged. The announcement of this engagement was received with great joy by the populations of Belgium and Luxembourg.

The royal wedding was celebrated five months later, on April 9, 1953, in the capital city of the Grand Duchy. The civil marriage was held in the Ceremonial Hall of the sixteenth-century Grand Ducal Palace. Msgr. Fernando Cento, Apostolic Nuncio to Luxembourg, officiated at the

religious ceremony in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame. The guests attending both ceremonies made up the most imposing gathering of royalty ever assembled in Luxembourg. Beside the Grand Duchess Charlotte, Prince Felix and King Leopold III, the parents of the bride and bridegroom, the invited guests included Queen Elizabeth and King Baudouin of Belgium, grandmother and brother of the bride; Queen Juliana and Prince Bernard of the Netherlands; Prince Bernadotte and Princess Ingeborg of Sweden, the Crown Prince and the Crown Princess of Norway, Prince and Princess Axel of Denmark, representing the royal houses of Sweden, Norway and Denmark: King Umberto and Queen Marie-Josée (former King and Queen of Italy); the Prince and Princess of Liechtenstein; Archduke Otto of Austria; the Duke and Duchess of Braganza and the Princes and Princesses of Bourbon-Parma. Princess Margaret of Great Britain was prevented, by the death of the Dowager Queen Mary, from representing H. M. Queen Elizabeth II, and was represented by Mr. Geoffrey Allchin, the British Minister to Luxembourg. The members of the Diplomatic Corps, the members of the Governments of the two countries, as well as representatives of the Belgian and Luxembourg authorities were also present.

The royal couple and their parents' guests, cheered by the Luxembourg people and nearly fifty thousand Belgians who had flocked to Luxembourg, went in procession from the Cathedral through the main streets of the city before returning to the Palace. There they were repeatedly called to the balcony, and each time they appeared were enthusiastically cheered.

The wedding day, replete with its celebrations, festivities and the special nightly illumination of the pic-



Grand Duke Jean taking the constitutional oath at the Parliament Nov. 12th 1964

turesque valleys, bridges and public buildings, will remain for a long time a souvenir of joy to those who were present. The wedding represents an important date in the life of the little state, and has added another link to the close ties already binding neighbouring Belgium and Luxembourg.

Immediately after their marriage the young princely couple settled at Betzdorf castle, situated 15 miles northeast of Luxembourg-city on a sunny hill surrounded by gardens, fields and forests. It was there that were born their

five children: Princess Marie-Astrid (February 17th 1954), Prince Henri (April 16th 1955), Prince Jean and Princess Margaretha (May 15th 1957), and Prince Guillaume (May 1st 1963).

After Grand Duke Jean's accession to the throne, the family moved into the Grand ducal Palace in Luxembourg. The summer residence is at Colmar-Berg castle, according to the tradition.

II

POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

After the return in 1945 of those Luxembourgers who had been deported and imprisoned in Germany, political life recommenced. The political institutions of the little State awoke to new life. Luxembourg being a constitutional monarchy the Sovereign, as the head of the State, exercises the executive power, takes part in the legislative power, and has a certain part in the judicial power (the power of pardon). The Constitution or fundamental law of the Grand Duchy gives the Sovereign the right to organize the Government.

The legislative power is exercised by the Chamber of Deputies, a body of 56 members (52 members before 1956). Immediately after the definitive liberation in February 1945, a Consultative Assembly sat until August 1945. In October of that same year, general elections took place. The result was that representatives of four political parties were sent to the Parliament: the Christian-Social

Party, the Socialist Party, the Democratic Group and the Communist Party. — After the elections of 1951, of the 52 members, 21 belonged to the Christian-Social Party. 19 to the Socialist Party, 8 to the Democratic Group and 4 to the Communist Party. After the elections of May 30th 1954 the House had 26 Deputies belonging to the Christian Social Party, 17 to the Socialist Party, 6 to the Democratic Group and 3 to the Communist Party. — After the elections of February 1st 1959 it counted 21 members of the Christian Social Party, 17 of the Socialist Party, 11 of the Democratic Group and 3 of the Communist Party. Finally the general elections of June 7th 1964 sent to the Parliament 22 Christian-Socialists, 21 Socialists, 6 members of the Democratic Group, 5 Communists and 2 members of a new party, the « Mouvement Indépendant Populaire ».

Besides the Chamber of Deputies there is a Council of State composed of twenty one members. They are nominated for life by the Sovereign, who also chooses a President from among them each year. The Council of State deliberates on proposed laws and bills, on amendments to be proposed; it also gives administrative decisions and tenders its advice on any other question referred to it by the Sovereign or his Government.

According to the Constitution the Government is responsible to the Chamber of Deputies. From 1945 to February 1947 the country was governed by a cabinet of national union and after that date by coalition governments formed by representatives belonging to the three major parties, namely: from 1947 until June 1951 the coalition was formed between the Christian-Social Party and the Democratic Group: from July 3d 1951 to March 2d

1959 between the Christian-Social Party and the Socialist Party; from March 2d to July 15th 1964 between Christian-Social Party and the Democratic Group and finally from Juli 15th 1964 on again by the Christian-Social Party and the Socialist Party. These cabinets, in matters of home policy, were above all concerned with social, economic, cultural and technical questions.

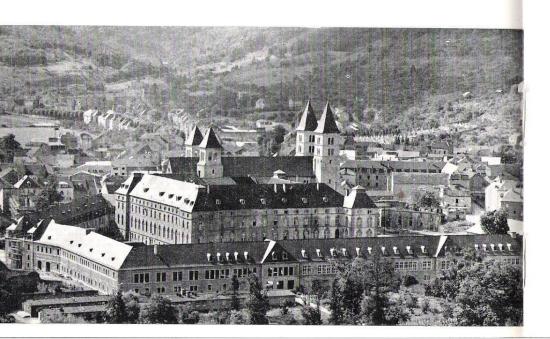
Fortunately the post-war economic development made it possible to face problems with confidence and to enable the country to bear the heavy expenditure both for its armed forces and for the reparation of war damages. The latter amounted to 11 billion Luxembourg or Belgian francs (220 million dollars). By the Act of February 25th, 1950 Parliament decided the total reparation of war damages (damages caused to private homes, State buildings, railways, roads, highways, telephone systems, personal damage, pension, etc.) by the Luxembourg State.

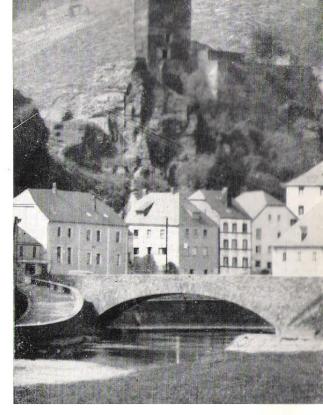
Being allied to Belgium in the economic field (the Belgo-Luxembourg Economic Union existing since May 1st, 1922, was restored after the liberation), the Grand Duchy shared the happy economic development of that country.

The iron and steel industry is the very lifeblood of Luxembourg, since it represents 70% of the whole Luxembourg economy. Altogether the steel industry today owns 32 blastfurnaces, 5 Thomas steelworks, 2 electric steelworks with a total capacity—Thomas and electric—of more than 4,5 million tons a year and with rolling-mills allowing, with the exception of tubes, tin-plates and specialities, the production of the most complete range of rolled products e. g. sheets, beams, rails, girders, wires, etc.



The reconstruction of the devastated areas and its various tasks were completed by 1952.—Above: Clervaux, the restored castle, the new schoolhouse.—Below: Echternach, Basilika and the Abbey





At the foot of the dungeon of its medieval castle, reconstructed houses and the Sure bridge of Esch/Sure



A new hotel at Berdorf

In spite of the relative importance of steel products supplied to the Allied Armies in 1944 and the first months of 1945 (two companies, Arbed and Hadir, received the Army and Navy Flag in consideration of their help thus given), the rate of production of the Luxembourg steelworks remained very low. The total output of the country even sank as low as 2.795 tons of steel a month in July 1945. A rise was made possible thanks to the delivery of Belgian and Dutch coke. For as far as coke and fuel in general is concerned the Grand Duchy depends entirely on imports. Progress was made slowly in 1946. With the appearance of the coke supplies from Germany and Belgium the steel output began to normalize, gained more and more in importance and it attained and even exceeded the prewar level, when the Marshall Plan gave its full assistance to European countries. Luxembourg received gifts, but the Luxembourg exports profited in a large way from the «drawing rights». Luxembourg's steel production reached a record in 1964. The post-war development is traced in the following diagram:

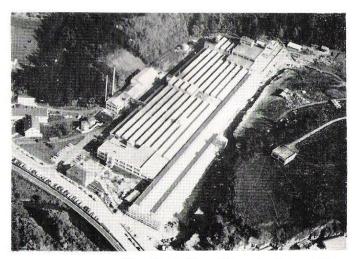
	Pig-Iron t total	Steel t total	Blastfurnaces in operation average	Workers average	
1946	1.364.622	1.295.294	13	13.753	
1950	2.498.884	2.450.689	23	18.141	
1954	2.799.789	2.828.212	25	18.581	
1958	3.285.355	3.378.820	28	21.364	
1961	3.833.725	4.112.783	30	22.196	
1962	3.596.852	4.009.942	29	22.022	
1963	3.586.807	4.031.659	26	21.751	
1964	4.191.015	4.558.342	28	22.300	

In order to keep her rank (the 7th before the Second World-War) among the other steel producing countries Luxembourg has followed the most recent technical development. Fortunately the most important of the three Luxembourg steel corporations, the ARBED, had been able to supply its plants in Dudelange and Esch/Alzette with the most modern rolling equipment. The wholly automatic Dudelange rolling-mill, since the early months of 1951, produces sheets of various thicknesses (03—20 mm) and has an annual capacity of nearly half a million tons of rolled products. The two other corporations have also carried out important plans of modernisation in their plants at Differdange and Rodange.

Nearly the total iron and steel output of the Grand Duchy is exported (90%). The remaining quantity, iron and steel, is the raw material of the main manufacturing groups of the Luxembourg economy. Quite a number of medium sized enterprises, such as foundries, forges and workshops are specialised in constructional, mechanical, and electrical engineering. Foundry products, iron and steel castings, forgings and stampings, builders' hardware, wrought iron products, general mechanical engineering, tools and equipment for the working of metals, household utensils, steel furniture, valves, etc. represent the range of their manufacturing programme. 1)

The second industry of the Grand Duchy, the tanning industry, also prospered during the post-war years beyond expectation. Located up north in the Ardennes highlands (Wiltz, Vianden, Clervaux), it prides itself on a long tradition, since, even in the 18th century, Luxembourg

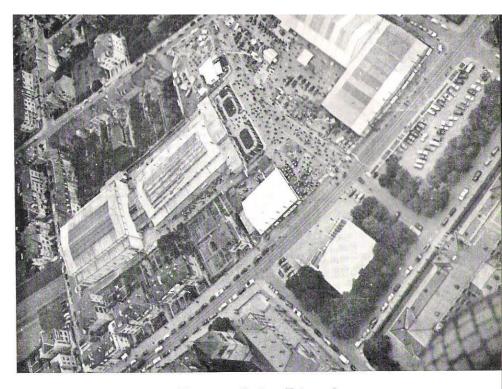
¹⁾ Cf. The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg Products, Exports, Ministry of Economic Affairs, 1952.



The Good Year Plant in Colmar-Berg.

tanners availed themselves of the extract of the bark of the stunted oaktrees growing on the Ardennes slopes. Yesterday this industry with its monthly productive capacity for skin-dressing exceeded one million square feet; its production of soleleather was more than 200 tons a month. This explains the fact that Luxembourg produced nearly 50% of the total leather output of the Belgian-Luxembourg Economic Union.

Unfortunately economic reasons compelled the tanneries to close their doors about 1954. In order to reemploy their relatively numerous personnel and — more generally — in order to diversify the economic structure of the Grand Duchy, which had been too one-sided in the past, the Luxembourg Government has carried out since 1958 a programme of setting up new industries.



The International Fair is a Spring Fair and opens every year on the last Saturday in May

As mentioned above (p. 22) a Board of Industrial Development was created. It led a prospection and information campaign especially in the United States. Today important American corporations like Goodyear, Dupont de Nemours, Monsanto and others have sister-branches in the Grand Duchy.

The deposits of argillaceous schist gave birth to the exploitation of the slate-quarries in the north-western part of the country. Their output is about 20 million slates per annum. Roofing slates, in very many patterns and sizes, pavement flags, floor coverings, wall facings and

plinths, insulating panels, sinks, etc. are made at Martelange.

The cement, faience and ceramic industries, the breweries as well, are valuable assets of Luxembourg's industry.

Luxembourg exports timber which is supplied in important quantities by the glorious woods of the ancient « Département des Forêts » of the French Revolution times,

Today still an important part of Luxembourg's active population is occupied in tilling the fertile soil of the « Good Earth », in livestock breeding, in growing fruit on the banks of the Sure and grapes on the banks of the Moselle. Since the peasants in the Ardennes highlands began to use the Thomas slag, which is produced in the steelplants of Esch-Alzette, Dudelange and Differdange, as a fertilizer, even these formerly sterile parts of the country have counted for something in the producing of wheat, rye, oats, barley and potatoes. Its favourable climatic and geological conditions make the « E'sleck » most suitable for the selection of seed potatoes, exported in considerable quantities to the neighbouring countries and especially to France. Livestock breeding plays an important part in the Luxembourg agriculture. The country is almost self-sufficient in food, but obtains sugar from Belgium and luxuries from overseas. It exports butter and meat to Belgium.

A new direction had to be given to our agricultural policy after the signature of the Treaty of Rome establishing a European common market (1958). Before the treaty, the political tendancy was to protect our own production in order to assure the self-sufficiency of the Grand Duchy and to maintain, aside the absorbing steel industry, an agricultural population which was considered essential

from a sociological point of view. On the other side the policy consisted in maintaining the consumer prices at a moderate level in the general interest of the competitive situation of Luxembourg's economy.

These apparently contradictory aims were only reached by subsidizing the main consumer goods at the production level.

The agricultural rulings of the Community require now a shift of this policy. Price subsidies have to be abolished during the years to come.

Furthermore a program of agricultural investments has been started improving the productivity of the farm and encouraging common ventures of the farmers towards better processing of their products.

Unfortunately foreign competition and bad sales conditions between 1914 and 1919 have almost destroyed the growing of Luxembourg roses. Before World War I, this was an important industry and the country exported more than five million plants into countries throughout the world, the U.S.A., Brazil, the British Empire, France, Germany, even to Russia. Before 1914 Luxembourg was really for roses what the Netherlands nowadays are for tulips. It had almost a monopoly in the export of roses.

Luxembourg's dry wines, the Riesling Sylvaner, Auxerrois, Pinot, Elbing, etc., as well as the light sparkling wines have built up a good reputation. The main Luxembourg export market is Belgium, but the Moselle winegrowers hope from the rise of Benelux an increase of their exports to the Netherlands and from the rise of the European Common Market an increase of their exports to the other countries of the Community.

This panoramic view of Luxembourg's economy and its post-war development would not be complete if we did not mention tourism. Tourism ranks high in the national economic planning and some imes is even named the second national industry. One thing is sure: it has brought, in 1947 and 1948, an average income of three hundred million francs, a figure which reached five hundred million francs in 1950 and 1.3 billion francs in 1962.

Luxembourg has not been shaken by social conflicts after World War II as were most of the European countries. No strikes or only strikes of minor importance took place. Visitors were surprised and journalists wrote about Luxembourg as about « an oasi of calm and courtesy » or « a paradise in a nutshell ».

This fact was purtly due to the rapid recovery which Luxembourg fortunately shared with her economic partner Belgium, but must also be attributed to her own social legislation which even before World War II was considered exemplary by so competent a body as the International Labour Organization (B.I.T.) of Geneva. The worker is protected by legal provisions insuring him against the various risks incurred by labour: general insurance against unemployment, sickness and accident; medical assistance: old age and disability pensions; the eight hours' day; workers' committees; workers' paid holidays; no work for children under fourteen years of age; no nightwork for women and adolescents; school for apprentices; vocational guidance offices; guarenteed assistance for expecting mothers six weeks before and four weeks after the birth, and after that special assistance for nursing mothers.

We may add to these institutions that the Government, after World War II, fixed a minimum wage at a fairly high level, pays family allocations, has opened new healthresorts for aged workers and reconvalescents, and gives health insurance to all Civil Servants and State employees.

To speak in general terms: The post-war development in this field is characterized by the evolution of social insurance concepts towards real social security practices and by the extension of the different schemes of social security to persons and groups to whom, until then, they had not been granted. Higher pensions are paid: the adaptation of old-age pensions for workers to the cost of living is integral and automatic; birth allowances are now paid to all Luxembourgers. The agricultural personel and in general the various groups of wage-earners are included in social security institutions.

III

FOREIGN POLICY

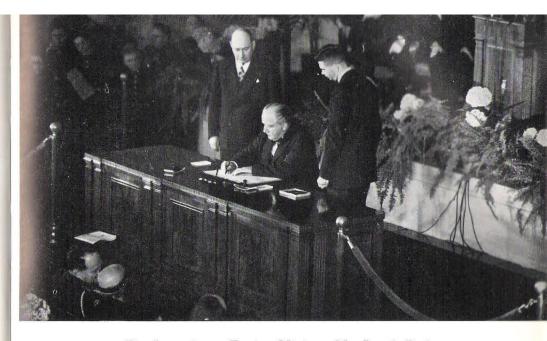
In matters of foreign policy the 10th May, 1940, as was said above, was a turning point in Luxembourg history, since it involved the defacto end of the coun-

try's policy of neutrality, to which the country had been pledged since the London Treaty of 1867. In order to give the new policy the needed legal foundation the Luxembourg Constitution had to be revised. Parliament passed the second revision of the Luxembourg fundamental law on April 28th, 1948 (the first revision dated from 1919). It reaffirmed the principle of parliamentary democracy, introduced the concepts of the right to work, of the protection of the family, of the freedom of trade and industry, of the recognition of trade unions. — but above all, it abolished the a perpetually neutral status of the country.

« Our country », declared the Luxembourg Foreign Minister, Mr. Joseph Bech, at the Chamber of Deputies, « has understood that it can no longer confine itself to isolation which, moreover, never was splendid, and that all hope of remaining in an egoistical and illusory seclusion has faded. The events of 1940 have made us, whether we want it or not, very modest participants; we are no longer indifferent, neutral spectators, but actors.

« Our part, I might say our mission, has been marked out for us by our real interest which is the solidarity of nations in world affairs and particularly in the European field. This solidarity alone can enable the old continent, if not to reconquer its secular political and material supremacy, at least to assure its security and liberty with its prosperity, thereby preventing the nations of Europe from sliding towards the abyss. »

Luxembourg is an active member of the Western European group; it has signed the Benelux Agreements, the Brussels Treaty (March 17th, 1949), the North Atlantic



The Luxembourg Foreign Minister, Mr. Joseph Bech, signing the North Atlantic Treaty, Washington, April 4th, 1949

Treaty (April 4th, 1949), and is a member of the European Council of Strasbourg. The growing collaboration between Luxembourg on one side and the United Kingdom and the United States on the other as well as, to speak in diplomatic language, her increasing importance in international political, economic and cultural affairs, caused these two countries in 1949 to appoint ministers plenipotentiary, and later on ambassadors, residing in Luxem-



On his farewell tour of Europe, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, came to Luxembourg on April 26th, 1952. General Dwight D. Eisenhower with the American Minister, Mrs. Perle Mesta, and Mr. Joseph Bech

Luxembourg trains an army since 1944
It is composed of three infantry battalions of territorial forces and one artillery battalion placed under operational control of a major U.S. unit of the Allied Forces Central Europe.





The British Prime Minister Sir Douglas Home and Mr. P. Werner, Prime Minister of Luxembourg, after their talks at N° 10 Downing Street, Nov. 11th 1963.

bourg. These were important events in post-war Luxembourg diplomatic history.

In order to fulfill its international obligations the Grand Duchy trains an army since 1944. It is partly included in the military organisations set up under the Brussels Treaty and the North Atlantic Treaty.

CHAPTER SIX

LUXEMBOURG AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

During the post-war years, due to the many changes on the European political scene, Luxembourg, long regarded as a small, unimportant state, has been able to assume the responsabilities of equal participation in the political and economic movements of Europe. In this period, outstanding European statesmen, politicians and economists have been endeavouring to bring their different countries together into a federation of European nations.

It was generally admitted, because of the continued existence of age-old opposition among the different countries, that a united Europe would not be created all at once, nor, yet, within a single framework. It was generally accepted that the fact of European unity must be preceded by solid, working, though limited achievements.

The first result of these post-war efforts was the European Community for Coal and Steel, which, in the decisive sector of steel and coal production, welds together the destinies of six countries: Germany, Belgium, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. Luxembourg, the

smallest member nation, is at the present, provisional seat of the European Community.

In Paris, July 23 to July 25, 1952, at a conference of the Foreign Ministers of the countries concerned, it was agreed to establish the institutions of the Coal and Steel Pool in Luxembourg. The Grand Duchy, geographically in the heart of Western Europe, and situated between France and Germany, is also an important steel-producing country, and it is possible that these factors may have influenced the decision of the Paris conference.

So it was that, since 1952, Luxembourg has become the setting for important political events. The as-yet-brief history of the European Community and the birth and growth of its pioneer institutions are forever linked with the name of the Capital of the Grand Duchy.

Immediately after the decision of the Foreign Minister's conference, the government of Luxembourg placed several public buildings at the disposal of the European Community. And one by one, the institutions and organizations of the Community were solemnly inaugurated.

On August 10th, 1952, the High Authority, the Executive of the Community, charged with the direction of the entire system, held its inaugural ceremony in the Town Hall of Luxembourg. Mr. Jean Monnet, who played a decisive part in the set-up of the Plan (which bears also the name of the French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman, who authoritatively launched the proposition of the International Pool), was elected President of the High Authority by common agreement of the six governments. Beside President Monnet, the High Authority

had eight members, who were chosen by their respective governments. They were Messr. Franz Etzel (Germany), first vice-president, Albert Coppé (Belgium), second vice-president, Léon Daum (France), Paul Finet (Belgium), Enzo Giacchero (Italy), Heinz Potthoff (Germany), Dirk Spierenburg (Netherlands) and Albert Wehrer (Luxembourg).

The Prince of Luxembourg, the Diplomatic Corps and Foreign and Luxembourg authorities were present at the inaugural ceremony, when President Jean Monnet repeated publicly, for himself and for the other members of the High Authority, the pledge which each member took when accepting his appointment. The inaugural address outlined the activities of the High Authority, which, explained President Monnet, are, in part, to create and maintain a single market for coal and steel, in which will be eliminated custom barriers, quota restrictions and all forms of discrimination throughout the territory of the Community. Said Jean Monnet: « There will no longer be frontiers for coal and steel within the Community.»

The second institution to take up its work in Luxembourg was the Special Council of Ministers, which body was created for the purpose of coordinating action by the High Authority for the Community to action of the governments individually responsible for general internal economic policy. Under the presidency of Chancellor Conrad Adenauer (the presidency of the Ministers' Council is a post which is held by one country after another for three months at a time), the Foreign Ministers and the Economic Ministers held their solemn inaugural meeting in Luxembourg on September 8th, 1952. A Secretariat

was established in the city of Luxembourg and is directed by Mr. Christian Calmes of Luxembourg.

Finally, the first session of the Court of Justice was held in Luxembourg on December 10th of the same year, and the seven judges publically took their oath of office. This Court is charged with enforcing the rights of the interested parties and with the deciding on the separation of powers among the Community's institutions.

The Common Assembly, the first Parliament and sovereign European Assembly, representing the peoples of the Community, opened in Strasbourg in September 1952. The Common Assembly established a Secretariat in Luxembourg city.

The Consultative Committee, which has also a Secretariat at the seat of the High Authority, is composed of equal membership from producer, worker and consumer groups. This organization must be consulted by the High Authority in specific cases requiring expert advice.

The European Community was recognized, immediately after the establishment, by non-member states and by organizations for international cooperation. The governments of the United Kingdom, the United States, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Switzerland have accredited special representatives, with diplomatic status, to the High Authority in Luxembourg.

Beyond these association, the High Authority fostered close and lasting relations among the member states of the Community and allied itself with the work of the Council of Europe and of the Organization for European Economic Cooperation.



The Executive Seat of the High Authority of the European Community for Coal and Steel (1952-1965)



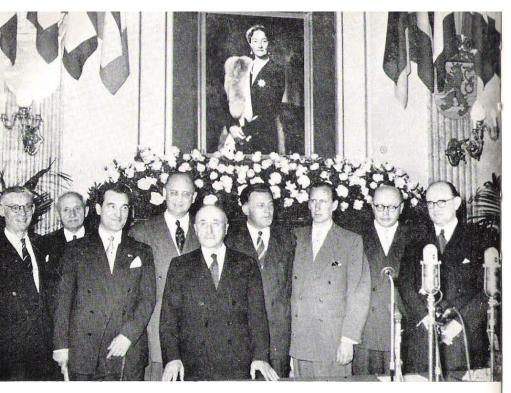
Mr. Jean Monnet, the first President of the High Authority, in his Luxembourg Office



One of the Administrative Buildings of the European Community

His Royal Highness the Prince of Luxembourg, High Authority President Jean Monnet and the President of the Court of Justice Massimo Pilotti on Aug. 10th 1952





At the inauguration ceremony August 10th, 1952, the nine members of the High Authority. Left to right: P. C. Finet (Belgium), L. Daum France),

E. Giacchero (Italy), Fr. Etzel, first vice-president (Germany), President Jean Monnet, A. Coppé, second vice-president (Belgium), D. Spierenburg (Netherlands), A. Wehrer (Luxembourg), H. Potthoff (Germany)



Right:

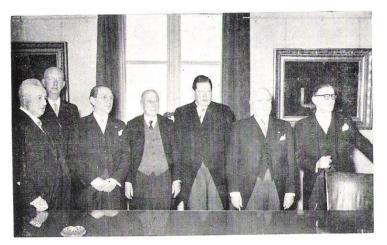
« We can afford no further delay in the building of Europe », said President Monnet in inaugural address The Municipal Art Gallery which served in 1952 as administrative headquarters of the Court of Justice of the Community

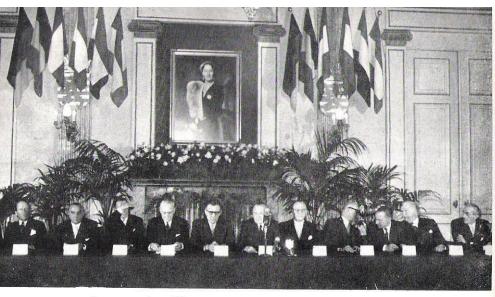


Below:

Members of the Court of Justice. L to r.: Charles L.

Hammes (Luxembourg), Adr. van Kleffens and P. J. S. Serrarens (Netherlands), President Massimo Pilotti (Italy), Louis Delvaux (Belgium), Otto Riese (Germany), Jacques Rueff (France)





Inauguration Meeting of the Council of Ministers
The Foreign and Economic Ministers of the six countries of the
Community are shown in the above picture taken in the Town Hall
of Luxembourg September 8th, 1952



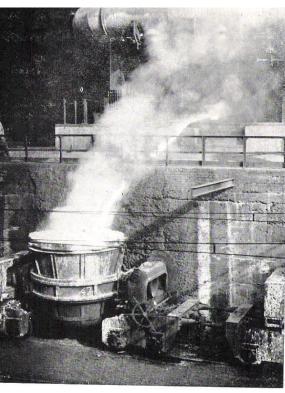
In the picture below at right Luxembourger Christian Calmes, secretary of the Council of Ministers



A working session of the members of the Minister's Council. The Luxembourg delegation headed by Economic Minister Michel Rasquin is seated at the left



Left: French Minister Robert Schuman, Luxembourg member of the H. A. Mr. Albert Wehrer, President Jean Monnet



In the Arbed Steelworks Esch Belval

Below: President Monnet tapping the first blastfurnace at the official opening of the common steel market, May 1st, 1953



Luxembourg had become, through the establishment of the European Community for Coal and Steel, an important diplomatic and administrative centre, in which were elaborated, and from which departed decisions concerning the workers and the enterprises of coal and steel in the six countries.

Since the beginning of the High Authority's work, the common steel and coal market has become an actual fact. This began for the coal industry on February 10th 1953, when, at dawn on that day, for the first time in European history, a German train, loaded with coal from the Ruhr, crossed, duty-free, first the Luxembourg frontier and then the French border near Apach.—The common steel market opened on the first of May 1953 with a symbolic celebration which took place in the Luxembourg Arbed steelworks at Esch-Belval. In the presence of the members of the High Authority, of Foreign Delegations and of international personalities, President Jean Monnet tapped a blastfurnace, which had been filled with French iron-ore and German, Dutch and Belgian coal all of which had been imported into Luxembourg without any custom duties.

Luxembourg's position within the framework of the coal and steel Pool was somewhat disadvantageous from the economic standpoint during the five-years transitional period. Transport duties (Luxembourg imports high-grade iron-ore from France and Sweden) and high wages (Luxembourg industrial workers are the highest paid within the European Community) made competition with the German, French and Belgian steelworks rather hard. In this competition the Luxembourg steel manufactures rely upon the excellent craftsmanship of the economically

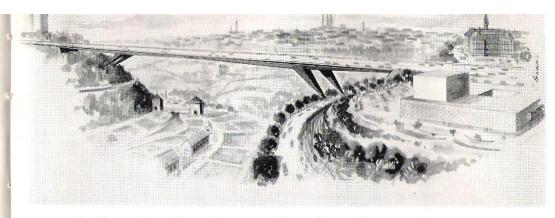
content workers and upon the industry's modern equipment.

Since those days the economic integration of the European Community's six member nations has made some progress. The common market, primarily confined to steel and coal, has been extended to the other fields of economic life. The same six countries who in 1952 had signed the Treaty of Paris, creating the European Community of Coal and Steel, signed in 1958 the Treaty of Rome, creating the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community.

By adhering to the Treaty of Rome, Luxembourg has accepted the obligations of this Treaty and has accepted to solve the problems which it creates in her own country i. e. to adapt to new standards her economic life and especially her agriculture which is in a rather disadvantageous position to the agricultures of heir neighbours. The changes required will condition profound adjustments during a transitionnal period (see p. 126).

But in this respect another problem of adjustment had to be solved for Luxembourg. As shown above Luxembourg-City had been the seat of the major institutions of the Coal and Steel Pool since it had been organized in 1952. On the other hand the executive bodies of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community, have been in Brussels since the Common Market and Euratom were organized in 1958.

In order to increase operating efficiency for the Communities' administrative groups, the six countries signed an agreement in April 1965 by which they merged the Communities' executive bodies into a new and single



In Luxembourg-City the new « Pont Grande-Duchesse Charlotte » (built 1963 - 1966) spanning the Alzette-valley, leads to the planned European quarter (left).

«executive commission» which should come into existence on the 1. 1. 1966, if the crisis which set in again in Community matters on the 30. 6. 1965 can be overcome.

This agreement calls for the transfer of nearly 1500 staff workers (those of the Steel and Coal Pool) from Luxembourg to the new central headquarters in Brussels.

Luxembourg losing the seat of the Coal and Steel Pool and their staff, the agreement fixed ways and means of compensating the Grand Duchy for this loss: It fixed definitively in Luxembourg the legal institutions of the European Community (Luxembourg-City having been already since 1958 the seat of the Court of Justice of the three Communities), and it arranged for a number of the Council of Ministers' meetings to be held in Luxembourg at certain times of the year (three months). It transferred to Luxembourg the staff members of the main banking institutions of the Community and fixed in the Capital of

the Grand Duchy several other administrative Services such as the Secretariat of the European Parliament, the Office of Publications etc.

Thanks to these compensations, Luxembourg kept her rank and rôle as one of the « European Capitals ».

Let us mention that the first European college had been created in Luxembourg-City and that, for promoting international and European studies, the Luxembourg government created on August 11th 1958 the International University of Comparative Sciences. During the first session of the Faculty of Comparative Law, students of 34 nationalities followed the lectures given by professors who belonged to 26 different countries. In 1959 was inaugurated the Faculty of Economics and the Program of special European Studies.

So it is that in the field of international cooperation Luxembourg has had after the second world war the opportunity of showing continuouly her good will and has been able to contribute, in direct service, her share to the success of European reconciliation and unification.

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